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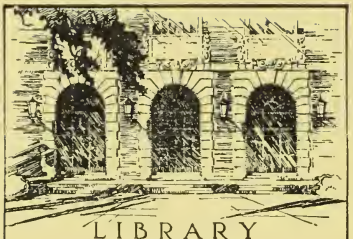
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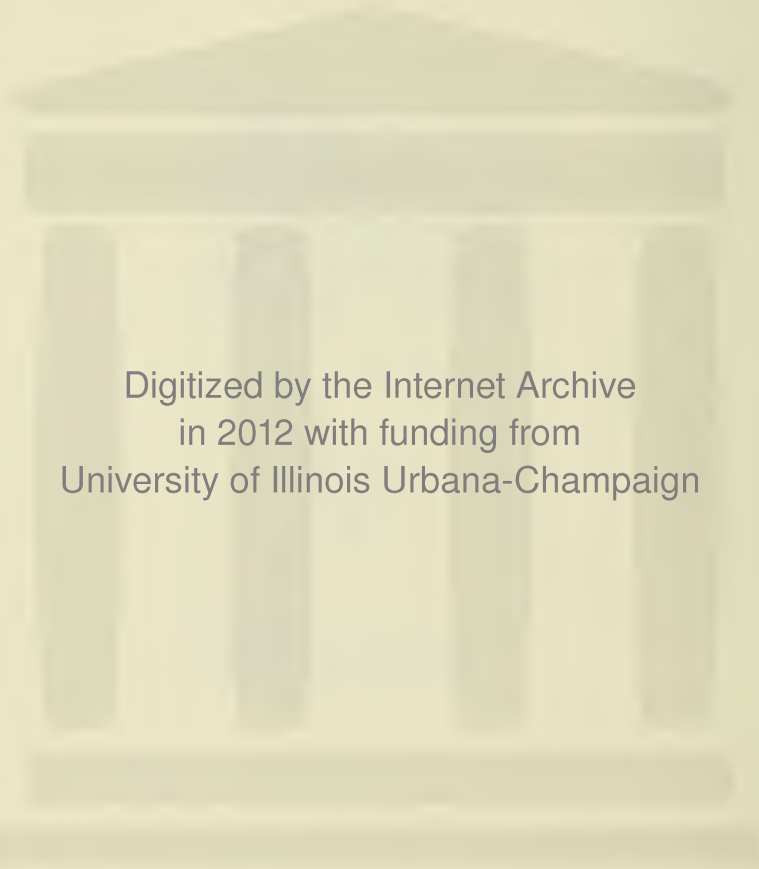
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Natchitoches

Time is absentminded, and leaves things lying around, out of place.
What else would these wrought-iron fleurs-de-lis be doing here?
These magnolia trees have bloomed and dried two hundred times
Since a bareheaded, knotty-armed Frenchman beat that crude-iron into a lace lily.
(When they caught up with the runaway, named Louis for his blacksmith master,
The soldiers gave him a picture of a Florentine iris, too - - on both cheeks with a hot iron. . . .)

Time is a careless thief, but kindly, leaving clues whereby we track him.
Otherwise,
We might forget the unknown actors who have read lines in the drama
That this same earth, same sky once sandwiched:
Savages just learning what clocks and beds were
And Frenchmen pitching heritage against the wilderness
With powdered wigs and wrought-iron fleurs-de-lis.

—Jean Jeffries

December 6, 1960

Marriage Contracts of Natchitoches, 1739-1803

Marriage Contracts of Natchitoches, 1739-1803

Translated and abstracted by

WINSTON DE VILLE

With an introduction by

EDWIN ADAMS DAVIS, PH.D.

Head of the Department of History at Louisiana State University

1961

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Contents

	page
Natchitoches by Jean Jeffries	i
Preface	xi
Introduction by Edwin Adams Davis	xiii
A Guide to the Abstracts	xv
Marriage Contracts of Natchitoches, 1739-1803	1
Appendix:	
A Supplementary List of Other Marriage Contracts Found in the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse INDEX OF CONVEYANCES	49
Transcript of the Buard-Rousseau Marriage Contract, April 10, 1739	50
Transcript of the Paillet-Poissot Marriage Contract, November 7, 1803	52
Glossary	55
Index	57

Preface

This book is the product of several months of research in some of Louisiana's oldest colonial records, those deposited in the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse at Natchitoches, Louisiana. Written when Natchitoches was a military post, and signed by such men as De Mezieres, Le Chevalier Coulon de Villiers, Paul Bouette Laffitte, Le Chevalier De Blanc, Layssard, de Livaudais, de Macarty, and the almost legendary Louis Juchereau de St. Denys, they offer to the historian a rich source of material for an intimate glimpse of Louisiana more than two hundred years ago.

The early contracts of marriage reveal some of the clearest pictures of colonial society. Henry P. Dart realized their importance when he wrote in the Louisiana Historical Quarterly: "It seems unnecessary to stress the value of these ancient contracts. They form an essential part of the social history of the Colony, preserving as they do the intimate family connections of the participants and of their relatives and friends. They introduce us to the people of the Colony, for here we find the names of the great and the small, most of whom missed their page in the histories of this era, but who nevertheless did their part, carried on and are still remembered by countless descendants in all parts of the world."

I owe much appreciation to these people: Miss Katherine Bridges of Northwestern State College at Natchitoches, a Texan whose knowledge of Louisiana's history exceeds that of most Louisianians; Dr. Nicolas S. Naidenko of Louisiana College at Pineville, who instilled in me a great appreciation of the French language; Mr. W. G. Stroud, Clerk of Court of Natchitoches Parish; Mrs. Rosalie C. Robinson, Clerk of Court of Red River Parish; Mr. V. L. Bedsole, Department of Archives, Louisiana State University; Mrs. Drouet W. Vidrine, Ville Platte, Louisiana, with whom I collaborated on a similar volume; Mr. Fred C. Kendrick, of Louisiana College, for valuable training in journalistic procedure; my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dalvis J. De Ville of Easton, Louisiana, for their encouragement and understanding.

This book had its beginnings at Louisiana College, my alma mater, where I learned to love research and knowledge.

Winston De Ville

December 8, 1960

Introduction

by Edwin Adams Davis

A year ago Winston De Ville, assisted by Jacqueline O. Vidrine, published *Marriage Contracts of the Opelousas Post, 1766-1803* a compilation, translation and abstracting of the marriage contracts from this section of the Old Imperial Saint Landry region. The present work is a continuation of De Ville's researches in the field of French and Spanish colonial records and performs like service for the northwestern section of the Louisiana colony which was centered in the old town of Natchitoches.

After an explanatory guide to the translations and abstracts, in which the translator and editor explains the methods of procedure, De Ville begins his work with a translation of the first marriage contract extant, the contract signed on April 10, 1739, between Gabriel Buar, who had migrated to Louisiana from the Swiss village of Morges, and Marie Anne Rousseau, who had been born in Louisiana. The work ends with the complete transcript of a contract signed on November 7, 1803, by Jean Bte. Paillet and Marie Victoire Poissot. A glossary and index, each of which adds materially to its general value and facilitates its use, end the volume.

The old post of Natchitoches was founded in 1714 by Louis Juchereau de Saint Denis, one of the most notable and certainly the most romantic figure in French Louisiana Colonial history, who later married the granddaughter of a Spanish commandant stationed on the Rio Grande, and who was the commandant of the Natchitoches post during most of the period until his death in 1744. Saint Denis built the first fortification in northwest Louisiana, a small fort on an island in Red River (now Cane River) in 1715 and named it Fort Saint Jean Baptiste. Construction of a new fort, walled with "stakes nine feet above the ground," was begun in 1721 and finally completed in 1733. The new fort contained barracks, a guard house, a store, a church, a powder house, a commandant's residence, the home of the store-keeper, quarters for servants and an oven.

The Natchitoches post grew slowly but steadily, for as was reported "the country is good, the air healthy, the land will be excellent when one will have the means to cultivate it. . . ." By 1722 the population totaled about 75 persons; fifteen years later it had increased to over

200, and was the center of a growing agricultural and stock-raising community. Shortly after General Alexander O'Reilly became Governor of Spanish Louisiana in 1769 he ordered Captain Don Eduardo Nugent and Don Juan Kelley to travel throughout the colony to receive oaths of fidelity from the inhabitants, hear complaints, and gather general information. The two men reported that Natchitoches was "composed of about 80 houses" and that the fort was "a simple enclosure of poor palisades with five iron cannons of caliber four." The town had a total population of 453 whites and 311 slaves and the adjacent country produced tobacco, corn, rice, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. There was excellent grass and "a sort of delicate cane" in the area, but the cane was of "such a nourishing quality" that it was necessary to feed the animals carefully for otherwise it "would make them too fat and clumsy, even though it never makes them unhealthy." By the end of the Spanish period Natchitoches was the most important town in northwest Louisiana and by the time the parish was organized under the Territory of Orleans in 1807 had a population of nearly 3,000.

Many aspects of life in the Natchitoches region during the French and Spanish periods may be gleaned by a careful study of De Ville's translations and abstracts of the marriage records: birthplace of settlers, types of homes built in the area, social customs, general economic developments, and numerous other details in the field of economic, social and cultural history. He has again performed a noteworthy service to Louisiana historians and those interested in the rich colonial period of Louisiana history and it is sincerely to be hoped that he will continue his work to include the old Ouachita, Rapides, Concordia, Pointe Coupee, and other districts.

Louisiana State University EDWIN ADAMS DAVIS

A Guide to the Abstracts

The date at the beginning of each contract is the date the instrument was drawn and filed.

To facilitate the use of the index, all contracts have been numbered, 1 through 97. These numbers do not appear on the original papers.

The notation in the upper right corner of each contract refers to the conveyance book and page number of the original document. All contracts are deposited in the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, Natchitoches, Louisiana, unless otherwise indicated. Entries marked "unbound" are also to be found in the office of the Clerk of Court at Natchitoches.

Original spellings have been retained.

In the paragraph of signatures, the X preceding a proper name signifies that the person was unable to write and made his "ordinary mark."

The act of executing a civil contract preceded the religious ceremony in the church, usually by less than one week.

"Bride" refers to the female party of the contract, and "Groom" refers to the male party. The original uses "future spouse."

Dashes replace illegible words or letters in a word. Words and question marks enclosed in brackets were supplied by the translator.

Accent marks have been used only in the index and the glossary.

The index names the contracting parties, their parents, and previous spouses.

Marriage Contracts of Natchitoches, 1739-1803

1

April 10, 1739 Book III, page 660

Gabriel Buar—soldier in the company of *Monsieur* Macarty at Natchitoches; son of deceased Jean Buar, brandy distiller at Morges, canton of Berne, Switzerland, and deceased Claudine Bachelard, also of Morges.

Marie Anne Rousseau—daughter of deceased Louis Rousseau of the German Coast on the River St. Louis in the Province of Louisiana, and Anne Chagneau, now married to Jean Bossier called le Brun, resident of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Jean L'age, *beau-frere,* stipulating for Francoise Buar, sister of the groom; Michel du Corbier, cadet in the company of *Sieur* Macarty.

Witnesses for bride: Anne Chagneau, her mother; Jean Bossier, her *beau-pere;* Pierre Alorge, sergeant in the company of *Sieur* Macarty; Jean Baptiste Besson.

Property: The bride has a dowry of 1000 *livres* in money being used currently in the colony of Louisiana. The groom promises to bring the same amount of money into the union.

Signed: X Bride; X Groom; X Jean Le Brun; X Anne Chagneau; Jean Lage *dit* La Rot; De Corbier; Alorge; Besson; p. Duplessis, notary.

2

May 2, 1740 LSU Archives

Jean Haieszes—master shoemaker; son of deceased Jean Haieszes and Chaterine Emond; native of Bougivalle, parish of Notre Dame, archbishopric of Paris.

Marie Francoise de Viereblet—widow of deceased Pierre Lesage.

Witnesses for groom: Monsieur de la Tour, lieutenant of the company of Natchitoches; Guillaume Chever called Dufrenne.

Witnesses for bride: Goudeau, major surgeon of this post; Claude Berterand called Dauphine, sergeant.

Signed: jean haieszes; Marc Delatour; M. F. devielle blet; F. Goudeau; Claude bertrant; Besson, notary.

3

May 3, 1740 LSU Archives

Guillaume Bergeau—soldier of the garrison at Natchitoches; son of deceased Nicolas Bergeau and Jeanne Viger; native of the parish of St. Sulpice, diocese of Xaintes.

Agnes Renaudiere—daughter of deceased Philippe Renaudiere and Perrinne Pivers.

Witnesses for groom: Remi Poisot; Pierre Bernardin, soldier of the garrison at Natchitoches.

Witnesses for bride: Perrinne Piperst, her mother; Charles Renaudiere, her brother; Marie Francoise Renaudiere, her sister; Jean Lagee; Etienne Chagneau.

Signed: X Groom; X Bride; X Mother of the bride; Jean Lage; X Pierre Bernardin; Poisot; X Etien Chagneau; Duplessis, notary.

4

September 14, 1742 LSU Archives

Etienne Barbier—son of deceased Francois Barbier and Francoise Prudhomme; native of the province of Dauphine.

Louise Marguerite Dion Derbanne—minor daughter of deceased Francois Dion Deprez Derbanne and Jeanne *de la grande terre.*

Witnesses for groom: Guillaume Chever called Dufrenne; *Monsieur* Alorge; Pierre Fosse, his *beau-frere.*

Witnesses for bride: Her eldest brother; her tutor.

Property: Each party brings into the marriage the sum of 1500 *francs.*

Signed: Alorge; Guillaume Chever; Derbonne; Deprez; Besson, notary.

5

April 17, 1743 Unbound, no. 66

Joseph le Duc called Villefranche—soldier in the company of *Monsieur* Dutergruit, with consent of the officers; son of Claude Duc and Anne Favonne; native of Dauphine, bishopric of Valence, village of Memant.

Marie Anne Gueydon—daughter of Jacques Guedon and Marie Anne Therese, Indian of the village of *la grande terre;* Louise Marguerite Guedon, wife of Jean Baptiste Besson, is her sister.

Witnesses for groom: Monsieur Alorge, sergeant in the company of *Monsieur* Dutergruits; Guillaume Chever of the same company.

Witnesses for bride: Louis Jobart, her tutor; Jean Baptiste Besson, notary of this post, her *beau-frere;* Robert Avare; Jean Desjeans.

Property: Each party brings into the marriage a sum of 220 *livres.*

Signed: I D I; X Joubare; X Marie Anne Guedon; X Joseph Duc; Guillaume Chever; robert; Alorge Besson, acting notary.

6

September 27, 1746

Red River Parish Courthouse
Natchitoches Book I, page I

Gaspar Derbanne—resident of Natchitoches; son of deceased Francois Derbanne and Jeanne.

Marie Francoise Verge—minor daughter of Joseph Verger and Angelique Dumont.

Witnesses for groom: Etienne Barbier, his *beau-frere;* Boisseau, *Cader.*

Witnesses for bride: Triche; Julien Rondin, ensign.

Property of groom: three Negroes; four arpents of frontage land situated on Bayou Mobile, bordered on one side by Pierre Derbanne, valued at 1500 *livres* in silver money.

Property of bride: The couple will be allowed to live in the house of the bride's parents, who are obliged to give them lodging, and to assist them as much as possible.

Signed: Gaspar Derbanne; X Marie Francoise Verge; X Angelique Dumont; X Etienne Barbier; X Louise Derbanne; X Julien Rondin; X Pierre Derbanne; X Triche; Doucet, acting notary.

7

September 10, 1747

Book I, page 154

Henry Triche—widower of Marie du Mont.

Louise Francoise Gillotte—widow of Etienne Leroy.

Witnesses for groom: Jullien Rondain, ensign of the militia; Pierre Alorge, sergeant of the detachment of troops garrisoned at Natchitoches.

Witnesses for bride: Louis Joubarre; Guillaume Boisseau.
Signed: X Henry Triche; X Louise Francoise Gillotte; X Julien Rondain; X Louis Jaubarre; Alorge.

8

May 25, 1748 Unbound, no. 84

Mathieu Mouette—soldier of the Marine on detachment, garrisoned at the royal fort *St. Jean Baptiste des Natchitoches*; son of Claude Mouette and Elizabeth, native of Holland; native of Paris, parish of St. Sulpice.
Elizabeth Rachal—minor daughter of Pierre Rachal called St. Denis, soldier, and Marianne Benoist.
[Not to be confused with the Juchereau de St. Denys family.]
Witnesses for groom: Daniel Pain, Guardian of the King's Storehouse at this post; Pierre Alorge, sergeant of the troops.
Witnesses for bride: Jullien Rondain, ensign of the militia; Dominique Montaige, soldier of the Marine on detachment, garrisoned at this post.
Signed: Veu. Deblanc; X Pierre Rachal; Elisapeth; Monet; Poisot; X Marianne Benoist; Alorge; Herve; Jullien Rondain, Dominique Montaige; Pain; Don Paure le pa; f. Doucet, acting notary; ramline verge.

9

June 5, 1750 Book I, page 125

Jean Baptiste Du Bois—native of *dissoulun* in Berry, parish of St. Sire, bishopric of Bourge; son of Philippe and Genevieve Berger; resident of this post.
Marie Joseph Clairemont—widow of Enry Riche; resident of this post.
Witnesses for groom: Remis Boisseau; Jean Louis Borme.
Witnesses for bride: Antoine Clairemont, Jean Riche.
Children of the first marriage of the bride are "Marie Jeanne Antoine and Emanuelle Riche."

Signed: X Antoine Clairmont; Dubois; Poissot; X Jean Richy; Marie Joseph Richy; Louis Ceaser Bourg [or Bossy]; Pain; de St. Denis; —[?]—; fes. Doucet; Eustache, Capuchin priest; De Blanc; Marie St. denis de blanc; Marie St. denis.

10

November 22, 1751 — Unbound, no. 129

Andre de Braulle—son of Francoise de Bralle and Suzanne Luneau.

Francoise Veronique Boucharre—minor daughter of Antoine Bouchare and Francoise Veronique Huberre.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Louis Cezard Borme; Blancpin; Charles Dardenne.

Witnesses for bride: Jullien Rondain, ensign of the militia; Pierre Alorge, sergeant of the troops.

Signed: Andre de brande; Antoine Bouchar; Francoiseveronique Bouchaee; X Francoise Veronique hubere; Alorge; Jean Louis Cezar Borme; F. Doucet, notary; blanpain; X Charles Dardenne; X Jullien Rondain; Gaspar Derbanne.

11

November 20, 1756 — Unbound, no. 27

Dominique Monteche—son of Jean Monteche and Catherine Leonard; native of Modenne, parish of St. Louis, in Italy; widower of Francoise Blet.

Marie Francoise Bourdon—widow of Jacques le Vasseur; daughter of Francois Bourdon and Marianne Beaupres; native of Demien, Picardy.

Witnesses for groom: Charles Toutin; Jean Baptiste Davion.

Witnesses for bride: Demeziere; Pain.

Property: The groom owns Negroes, Indians, a house, land, and movables, valued at 8600 *livres*.

Signed: Veu. De Blanc; Marie Francoise Boudons; X Charles Toutin; Dominique Monteche; Jean Bte. davion; Demezieres; Pain.

12

August 5, 1758 Book I, page 193

Jean Baptiste Duvivier—son of Michel Duvivie and Marie le Fevre; native of *le cap de la magdeleine*, bishopric of Quebec.

Jeanne du Pain—widow of Julien Rondain, officer of the militia; daughter of Antoine Dupain and Martine Bonnet; native of Natchitoches, bishopric of Quebec.

Witnesses for groom: Louis Joubart; Andre Rambin.

Witnesses for bride: Borme, officer of the militia; Poisot, sergeant of the militia.

Property: The property of the groom consists of 500 *livres* in cash money of the colony. For her part, the bride brings into the marriage 2781 *livres*, 3 *sols*, and 9 *deniers*.

Minor children of the brides first marriage are Louis, Francois, Marie, and Julien Rondain.

Signed: Chev. De Blanc; fr. valentin, Capucian priest; X Jn. Bte. Duvivier; Rambin; Jeanne dupain; X Louis Joubart; Borme; Poissot; Gabriel —[?]—; Pain.

13

July 7, 1760 Unbound, no. 62

Jean La Berry—son of Etienne la Berry and Isabel Lestage; native of the *bourg* of St. Paul, parish of St. Paul, province of Biar.

Jeanne Guedon—widow of Charles Toutin.

Witnesses for groom: Poissot; Borme.

Witnesses for bride: Dominique Monteche; Alexy Grappe.

Signed: De Blanc; Alexis grappe; Jean Laberry; X Jeanne Guedon; X Henry Trichel; X Dominique Monteche; Borme; Poissot; Pain.

14

November 7, 1760 Book II, page 534

Pierre Gaignys—son of Pierre Gaignys and Marie Blutau; native of St. Joachim, bishopric of Quebec.

Marie Louise Davion—minor daughter of Jean Baptiste Davion and deceased Marie Hyacinthe Trichle; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Etienne Gaignys; Jean Baptiste Morin.

Witnesses for bride: Emanuel Trichele; Jean Baptiste Trichele, her maternal uncles.

Signed: Emanuel trichele; morin; Jean Baptiste trichel; X Jean Baptiste Davion; Pierre gaignys; [two signatures torn off].

15

[No date] Book I, page 294

Louis Normand—son of deceased Louis Normand and Anne Brunelle, who is now in Quebec; Michel Philipe takes the place of the groom's father.

Catherine Clement—daughter of deceased Francois Clement and deceased Agnes Anard[?]; assisted by St. Jean, her *beau-pere.*

[This document is an extract from the Royal Notary of Illinois, Province of Louisiana, at the village of the Immaculate Conception.]

Witnesses for groom: Michel Philippe; Charles Dulude; Jacques Grignon; Antoine Roland.

Witnesses for bride: St. Jean, her *beau-pere*; Agnes Clement, her sister; Augustin St. —[torn]—, her *beau-frere*; Dame Douchouquet.

Property: St. Jean gives to the bride one heifer of her choice.

[The part of this document containing signatures and the date is missing.]

16

March 23, 1761 Book I, page 314

Francois Carles—son of Jean Carles and Marie Merles; native of Marseille in Provence, parish of La Majore, diocese of Marseille.

Jeanne Madert—minor daughter of deceased Jean Madert and deceased Marie Materne; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Dominique Monteche, lieutenant of the militia; Gabriel Buard.

Witnesses for bride: Jacques Lambre; Jean Lambre, her cousins and surrogate tutor.

Signed: X Jacques Lambre; X Jean Lambre; X Gabriel Buard; X Francois Carles; X Jeanne Madert; Roujot; X Dominique Monteche; Pain, notary.

17

March 25, 1761 Book I, page 295

Pierre Dole—son of Albert Dole and Therese Colin; native of Mons in Flanders, capital of Hainau, parish of St. Germain, archbishopric of Cambray.

Marie Louise Toutin—daughter of deceased Charles Toutin and Jeanne Guesdon; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Dominique Monteche, lieutenant of the militia; Andre Rambin.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Laberry, her *beau-pere*; Jeanne Guesdon, her mother; Henry Trichel and Baptiste Trichel, father and son.

Signed: Jean Laberry; pierre doler[s?]; X Dominique Monteche; X *Vve.* Toutin *dit* Laberry; Marie Louise toutin; X Henry Trichel; Rambin; dubois; Jean Baptiste trichele *fils;* Mannuel trichele *fils*; Pain, notary.

18

June 18, 1761 Book I, page 306

Francois Beaudoin—huntsman; son of Rene Beaudoin and Jacqueline Poisson; native of Gentilly, parish of Immaculate Conception in Canada.

Marianne Cicille—daughter of deceased Pierre Cicille and Francoise Botson; native of Arkansas.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Laberry; Henry Trichele.

Witnesses for bride: Francois n—[torn]—; Francois Daniel Pain, *fils.*

Signed: Francois Baudouin; X Marianne Cicille; X Henry Trichele; pain, *fils*; X Francoise Botsou; fr valentin, Capucian priest, Roujot; Laberry; Pain.

19

December 31, 1761 Book I, page 293

Antoine Chesneau called Sans Chagrin—resident of the village of St. Philippe, parish of Ste. Anne *de la Nouvelle Chartres*; widower of Dorthee Acuica[?]; son of Jean Cheneau and Jeanne Papeau; native of the bishopric of Angouleme, parish of St. Jacques.

Marie Joseph Laruiziau[?]—widow of Hubert Finet; resident of St. Philippe.

[This document is an extract from the register of Illinois. It was brought by Antoine Chesneau from Illinois to Natchitoches.]

Witnesses for groom: Joseph Belecour; Jean Batiste Mercier; Claude Merleau.

Witnesses for bride: Charles Cadron; Nicolas Chantoin; Jean Baptiste Hervieux.

[Signatures do not appear on this entry, which is a copy. Two persons who signed are mentioned: Reverend *Pere* Luc, *Religieux Recolet* of the Church of St. Philipe, and La bussiere.]

20

January 11, 1762, at New Orleans — Book III, page 626

Francois Closseaux—sergeant in the company of Gamon stationed at this colony; major son of deceased Antoine Closseaux and Jeanne Mousse; native of Fontagnon in Perigore, parish of Bressant, bishopric of Perigeuil.

Marie Anne Daublin—minor daughter of deceased Valentin Daublin and Marie Anne Gratien, now wife of Pierre Raby, a counsellor in this town; native of *des Allemands*, bishopric of Quebec.

Witnesses for groom: Jean la Coue called Duboure, sergeant of affairs of the troops; Pierre Baillon, soldier in the company of Dutillet.

Witnesses for bride: Raby; her mother; Antoine Marmillon; Nicolas Cailleux.

Property: The bride brings into the marriage the property coming from the succession of her parents. As a marriage settlement, the groom presents 1000 *livres.*

Signed: Marie Anne Daublin; Marie Anne Raby; La Con Dubourg; Raby; Ballio; Marmillon; Cailleux; Choion; Bary; Chantalou, notary.

21

April 4, 1763 — Book I, page 337

Pierre Baillo—soldier in the company of Dutillet; son of Jean Baillo and Catherine La Fon; native of *negre pelisse*; parish of Ste. Anne of Montauban, province of Sercy.

Catherine Poisot—daughter of Remis Poisot and Anne Marie Felip; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Francois Closseaux; Joseph Lattier, corporal of the —[?]—.

Witnesses for bride: Poisot; Dominique Monteche, lieutenant of the militia; Jean Louis Borme, ensign of the militia.

Signed: Baillo; X Catherine Poisot; X Francois Closseaux; Poissot; X Dominique Monteche; X Joseph Lattier; Borme; Pain, notary.

22

May 23, 1763 Book I, page 342

Francois Frederic Piedvert—huntsman; son of Jean Bte. of Piedvert and Catherine Durocher; native of Natchez.

Francois Botson—widow of Pierre Bontems; daughter of Claude Boston and Magdeleine [blank]; native of New Orleans, capital of this province.

Witnesses for groom: Alexis Grappe, sergeant of the troops; Pierre Dole called Valentienne[?].

Witnesses for bride: Jean Louis Borme, officer of the militia; Francois Barre, shoemaker.

The two children of the bride by her first marriage are: Marianne Bontems, now wife of Francois Beaudouin, and Catherine Bontems, who is in the Ursuline Convent at New Orleans as an orphan.

Signed: Ledoux; Fr. Ignacio Maria Labo; Francoise Botson *Vve. Bontemps*; X Francois Frederic; Borme; francois Batite Barre; pierre dole; alexis grappe; Pain, notary.

23

June 7, 1763 Book I, page 360

Joseph Lattier—corporal of a company of the Marine on detachment, garrisoned in this post, with permission in writing by *Monsieur le Chevalier* de Macarty, Captain Commandant of the post; son of Jean Lattier and Francoise Revoironne; native of Roman in Dauphin, bishopric of Vienne.

Anne Verger—widow of Jean Baptiste Boulet; daughter of Joseph Verger and Angelique Dumon; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Dubois; Abraham Gonin.
Witnesses for bride: Henry Trichel, her uncle; Remis Poisot.
Signed: Abraham goneit; X Joseph Lattier; Poissote; Chev. Macarty; Dubois; X Marie Verger; Malber; X Henry Trichel; Baillio; Pain, notary.

24

August 5, 1763 Book I, page 344

Ignace Anty—merchant; son of Louis Anty and Anne Roche; native of Marseille, parish of Acoueles; widower of Catherine Guerin, by whom he had two sons, ages ten and —[?]—.
Therese Lamalatty—minor daughter of Louis Lamalatty called Joubart and Jeanne Victoire; native of Natchitoches.
Witnesses for groom: Monsieur le Chevalier de Macarty, captain of the infantry and commandant of this post; *Monsieur* Ledoux, also captain of the infantry of the garrison of this post.
Witnesses for bride: Dominique Monteche, lieutenant of the militia; Jacques Lambre; Louis Lamalatty, father and son.
Signed: X Louis Lamalaty, pere; X Therese Lamalatty; Ignace anty; Le Chev. Macarty; Le doux; Dn. Joseph Diaz Infante; X Dominique Monteche; X Jacques Lambre; Pain, notary.

25

June 4, 1764 Book I, page 359

Jacques Naigle—blacksmith; son of Jacques Naigle and Anne Boyer; native of St. Charles des Allemands.
Marie Louise Larenaudiere—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Charles Larenaudiere and Marie Jeane Riviere.
Witnesses for groom: Louis Thiery; Louis le Clerc; Pierre Derbanne, his *beau-frere* and friends.
Witnesses for bride: Charles Larenaudiere; Marie Jeane Riviere; Andre Rambin; Jean Olivier Dufrene.
Signed: X Pierre Derbanne; X Jacques Naigle; X Louise Larenaudiere; X Charles Larenaudiere; X Louis Thery; Jeane lariviere; Le Cler; Rambin; Dufraien; Pain, notary.

26

February 10, 1765 Book I, page 395

Jean Baptiste Morin—cartwright [wheelwright]; son of Jean Baptiste Morin and Agnes Mercier; native of the parish of St. Francois *de la Riviere du Sud,* Canada.

Catherine le Vasseur—daughter of Jacques le Vasseur and Marie Francoise Bourdon; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Davion; Jacques Lambre.

Witnesses for bride: Dominique Monteche, retired officer of the militia and *beau-pere* of the bride; Francoise Bourdon, her mother; Jean Pizerau; Jean Lambre, her *beau-freres.*

Property: The bride has 760 *livres* in actual cash, coming from her part in the inheritance from deceased Pierre Tourangeau, her godfather.

Signed: Laperrier; De St. Amand; Pisitos; J Bte trichele; Roujot; prudhomme; X Marie Francoise Bourdon; X Jean Bte. Morin; X Dominique Monteche; X Jacques Lambre; X Catherine le Vasseur; Jean lambre; Laperriere; X Jean Baptiste Davion; Pain, notary.

27

March 14, 1765 Book II, page 455

Jean Baptiste Gonnin—carpenter; son of Abraham Gonnin and Sarra Raimon; native of Vandion, Switzerland, *bailliage* of *remenitier*[?].

Emanuelle Richy—daughter of Henry Richy and Marie Joseph Clermont; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Gabriel Buard; Marin Grillet.

Witnesses for bride: Andre Rambin, her uncle by marriage; Joseph Lattier; Jean Baptiste Dubois, her *beau-pere;* Marie Joseph Clermont, her mother.

Property of groom: As a marriage settlement, the groom gives the bride 1000 *livres.*

Property of bride: The inheritance from her deceased father and from Jean Richy, her uncle, is the sum of 1039 *livres* and 5 *sols* in actual cash; 2 mother-cows; 6 middle-size bulls; 1 month-old heifer.

Signed: jean battise gonit; Rambin; X Emanuelle Richy; Dubois; X Marin Grillet; X Joseph Lattier; X Gabriel Buard; Marie Joseph clermont dubois; Turpin; Pain, notary.

28

May 12, 1766 Book I, page 422

Pierre Lacourt—soldier of a detached company of the Marine, garrisoned at Natchitoches, with permission of *Monsieur* de la Perriere, *Chev. de St. Louis*, Commandant of this post for the King; son of Pierre la Court and Anne Nouge; native of the parish of Dissal, bishopric of Perigueux.

Marie Louise Verger—widow of Pierre Craitte; daughter of Joseph Verger and Angelique Dumon; native of Natcitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Pierre Baillio; Joseph Lattier.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Dupres, her tutor; Gaspard Derbanne, her *beau-frere.*

The child of the bride's first marriage is Marie Jeane Craitte.

Signed: Lacour; D st Amand; X Marie Louise Verger; Baillio; X Joseph Lattier; X Baptiste Dupres; gaspar derbanne; Pain, notary.

29

June 10, 1766 Book I, page 420

Michel Brumeaux—merchant of this post; son of Michel Brumeaux and Marianne Messager; native of *l'isle de* St. Martin de Ret, parish of [blank], bishopric of Lusson in Poitou.

Marie Rondin—daughter of Julien Rondin, retired officer of the militia, and Marie Jeanne [blank]; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Etienne Bossant; Louis le Cler.

Witnesses for bride: Ignace Anty; Pierre Saurelle; Louis Rondin, her *frere charnel.*

Signed: Bossan; Ignace Anty; Le cler; X Louis Rondin; X Michel Brumeaux; X Marie Rondin; pierre Saurelle; Pain, notary.

30

August 5, 1766 Book I, page 429

Etienne Gagnys—joiner; son of Jean Baptiste Gagnys and Agatha Crevier; native of the parish of *la cathedrale de la haute ville*, Canada.

Marie Louise Bertrant—daughter of deceased Claude Bertrant, sergeant of the troops of this colony, and Marie Elizabeth de lisle; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Pierre Gagny, his cousin; Pierre Alorge, joiner; Jean Pierre Villard.

Witnesses for bride: Monsieur Louis George de la Perriere, Chevalier of the royal and military order of St. Louis, Commandant of this post for the King; *Monsieur* Gilbert Voucoret de St. Amand, infantry officer of the same garrison.

Signed: Alorge; J. Pierre Villard; D. st Amand; X Elizabeth de l'isle; X Etienne Gagnys; X Pierre Gagnys; X Marie Louise Bertrant; La Perriere; Pain, notary.

31

December 21, 1766 Book I, page 432

Francois Valentin—son of Jean Valentin and Francoise Gravaygne; native of Rochvay, bishopric of Marseille.

Marie Louise Toutin—widow of Pierre Doles; native of Natchitoches; daughter of deceased Charles Toutin and Jeane Guedon.

Witnesses for groom: Jean de Jarnal; Etienne Bossan.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Laberry, her *beau-pere*; Jeanne Guedon, her mother; Jean Duviers; Andre Rambin.

Signed: X Francois Valentin; Marie Louise toutin; Jean Laberry; Jeanne Guedon; Bossan; Andre Rambin; f Dejarnal; Jn Duvivier; Pain, notary.

32

June 29, 1767 Book II, page 535

Remis Poisot—son of Remis Poisot, lieutenant of the militia at this post, and Anne Marie Philippe; native of Natchitoches.

Louise Cave—daughter of Francois Cave and Jeane Brunet; native of New Orleans.

Witnesses for groom: Remis Poisot, his father; Joseph Verger; Etienne Verger.

Witnesses for bride: Robert Dupres, her *beau-frere* acting in place of her absent father; Francois Closseaux; Pierre Baillio.

Property: As a marriage settlement, the groom gives the sum of 1000 *livres* to the bride.

Signed: X Francois Closeaux; X Robert Dupres; X Remis Poisot; X Louise Cave; X Joseph Verger; X Etienne Verger; poissot; Baillo; Pain, notary.

33

August 10, 1767 Book II, page 528

Francois Carles—son of Jean Carles and Marie Merle; native of Marseille, parish of *la major*, bishopric of Marseille in Provence; widower of Marie Jeanne Modert.

Marie Louise Larenaudiere—widow of Jacques Naigle; daughter of Charles Larenaudiere and Jeanne Lariviere; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Laberry; Jean Lambre.

Witnesses for bride: Charles Larenaudiere, her father; Louis le Cler, surrogate tutor of the bride's minor child; Henry Trichele.

The child of the bride's first marriage is Charles Jacques Naigle. He will be reared [nurtured], supported, brought up, and instructed in the Apostolic and Roman Catholic Church, sent to schools, and be taught a trade suited to his upbringing, all this being the responsibility of the said joint estate, without diminuation of his basic needs, until he is eighteen years old.

Signed: Le Cler; X Francois Carles; X Charles Larenaudiere; X Henry Trichle; X Louise Larenaudiere; X Jean Lambre; Laberry; Pain, notary.

34

March 12, 1768 Book II, page 496

Jean Barthelemy Charbonnet—merchant of this post; son of Claude Charbonnet, merchant, and Marie Cusson; native of the parish of St. Genez de Thiers in Auvergne, diocese of Clermont-Ferrand.

Pelagie Pain—minor daughter of David Pain, guardian of the King's storehouse and subdelagate of the finance officer of this province, and judge of the Natchitoches jurisdiction, and Jeanne Roujot; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Antoine Charbonnet, his *frere-consanguin*; Jean Baptiste Poeyfarre, merchant; Nicolas Lamathe; Louis Nicolas Lemee, merchants.

Witnesses for bride: Monsieur and *Dame* Pain, her father and mother; Francois Daniel Pain; Louis Pain, her brother *consanguin; Messieurs Le Chevalier* de Villiers, Commandant of this post and de Mezieres, *capitaine reforme d'infanterie.*

Property of groom: 3000 *livres* in specie; one Negro.

Property of bride: 2000 *livres.*

Signed: j. By. charbonnet; At. Charbonnet; Pelagie Pain; jeanne Roujot pain; D. Pain; f. Stanislas, Capucian priest; Le Chev. Coulon De Villiers; Demezieres; fazende Demezieres; Athanase de Mezieres; Elisabeth Borme; f. D. pain, *fils*; Livaudais de Villiers; Marie Livaudais; De St. Amand; N Lamathe; Jn. Bte. Poeyfarre Jn. N. Lemee; Pain, notary.

35

March 12, 1768 Book II, page 492

Antoine Charbonnet—merchant of this post; son of Claude Charbonnet, merchant, and Marie Cusson; natives of the parish of St. Genez de Thiers in Auvergne, diocese of Clermont Ferrand.

Marie Antoinette Henoul de Livaudais—minor daughter of *Monsieur* Jacques Henoul de Livaudais, *ancien Capne. de port,* and Genevieve Marie Babin La Source; native of New Orleans, parish of St. Louis, bishopric of Quebec.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Barthelemy, his brother *consanguin,* merchant of this post; Jean Baptiste Poeyfarre; Nicolas Lamathe; Louis Nicolas Lemee, all merchants of this post.

Witnesses for bride: Monsieur and *Madame* de Villiers; *Monsieur* and *Madame* de Mezieres; *Monsieur* Vaucoret de St. Amand, officer of the garrison of this post.

Property of groom: 2000 *livres* as a marriage settlement.

Property of bride: rights of inheritance from her parents.

Signed: J. By. Charbonnet; fazende Demezieres; athanze de mesieres; Jeanne Rouiot pain; At. Charbonnet; Marie Livaudais; Le Chev. Coulon de Villier; Livaudais de Villier; N. Lamathe; Jn. Bte. Poeyfarre; Jn. N. Lemee; Pain, notary; Pelagie Pain; f. Stanislas, Capucian priest; Devaucoret St. Amand; Demezieres; Elisabeth Borme.

36

March 19, 1768 Book II, page 493

Mathurin David—son of Pierre and Anne du Poste[?]; native of the *bourg* of Urie [Vrie?], parish of Ste. Magdeleine, bishopric of Angers.

Marie Jeanne Lamalathie—daughter of deceased Louis Lamalathie and deceased Jeanne Victoire; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Alexis Grappe; Jean Baptiste Laberry.

Witnesses for bride: Louis Lamalathie, her brother *consanguin*; Jean Baptiste Trichele.

Signed: X Mathurin David; X Jeanne Lamalathie; Alexis grappe; Jean Bte. Laberry; Louis Lamalati; Jean Bte. trichele; Pain, notary.

37

July 25, 1769 Book II, page 586

Honnore Viscan—native of Harles in Provence; twenty three years old; son of Francois Viscan and Honnore St.[?] Squier[?].

Marie Louise Chaigneau—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Francois Chaigneau and Marie Lacroix; seventeen years old.

Witnesses for groom: Louis Jobard; Manuel Trichel.

Witnesses for bride: Alexis Grappe; Valentin.

Property: The bride's father gives one arpent of land with a house. The groom gives the bride 500 *livres* as a marriage settlement.

Signed: Manuel trichele; Louis Jobard; Alexis grappe; Lacoste; Roujot, notary.

38

September 2, 1769 Book II, page 546

Michel Robin—native of St. Ange [Onge?], parish of St. Martin de Meursac; son of Michel Robin and Jeanne Dureau.

Marie Louise Boulet—native of Natchitoches; daughter of deceased Jean Baptiste Baulet and Anne Verger.

Witnesses for groom: Baptiste Trichel; Piseros.

Witnesses for bride: Joseph Lattier, her *beau-pere*; Etienne Verger, her uncle; Manuel Trichel, her cousin.

Signed: M. Robin; Pislros; Manuel trichele; X Etienne Verger; X Lattier; Roujot, notary; Jean Baptiste trichele.

39

September 7, 1769 Book II, page 593

Baptiste Dupre—native of Cannes Brulees; widower of Elizabeth Verger; son of deceased Jacques Dupre and Anne Marie Philippe.

Louise Marguerite Lecompte—daughter of Jean Baptiste Lecompte and Marguerite Le Roy; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Remy Poisot, his *beau-pere*; Gaspard Derbanne, churchwarden; Jean Piseros, merchant.

Witnesses for bride: Henry Trichel, her god-father; Dupin, officer of the militia.

Property: The groom has an interest in the inventory of the property of his deceased wife. The inventory was made September 6, 1769.

Signed: X Baptiste Dupre; Lecompte; X Bride; Poisot; X Trichel; Dupain; Pisirot; g. Derbanne; Roujot, notary.

40

October 23, 1769 Book II, page 549

Manuel Trichele—son of Henry Trichele and deceased Marie Dumont.

Marie Louise Grappe—daughter of Alexis Grappe and Louise Marguerite Guedon.

Witnesses for groom: Henry Trichel, his father; Gaspard Derbanne, his cousin; Etienne Verger, his first cousin.

Witnesses for bride: Alexis Grappe, her father; LaBerry, her *bel-oncle*; Dominique Monteche, her god-father.

Property of bride: As an advance payment on part of her inheritance, the bride's father gives her one *mulatresse* named Jeanne valued at 1500 *livres* in coined money.

Property of groom: From the inheritance of his mother, the groom has 200 *piastres*. As an advance on his rights in the future succession of his father's property, he is given one young Negro named Antoine, about fifteen years old, valued at 300 *piastres*.

Signed: Manuel Trichele; Marie Louise grappe; Alexis grappe; Laberry; [torn]; Roujot, notary.

41

December 26, 1769 Book II, page 561

Romain Delafosse—son of Pierre De la fosse and Jeanne Gillemenne; native of St. Quantre.

Rose Benoist—native of Acadia; fourteen years old; daughter of deceased Jean Benoist and Anne Trean.

Witnesses for groom: Alexis Grappe; Prudhomme, surgeon.

Witnesses for bride: Louis Le De, her *beau-pere;* Honnore Trean.

Signed: De Mezieres; Prudhomme; Alexis grappe; X Louis Lades; X Honnore Trajan; Roujot, notary.

42

January 4, 1770 Book III, page 617

Jean Baptiste Piedferme Leger—native of Adailles; major son of deceased Adrien Leger called Piedferme and Marie de Teincourt.

Marie Aemens—daughter of Charles Larenaudiere and Jeanne Lariviere.

Witnesses for groom: Pierre Allorge; Jean Baptiste Prudhomme.

Witnesses for bride: Jacques Lambre; Andre Rambin.

Property: Charles la Renaudiere and his wife give to their daughter 600 livres, half of which will enter into the joint estate. The other half will remain in the possession of the bride and her heirs.

Signed: Prudhomme; Pierre Alorge; Rabin; X Jacob Lambre; Roujot, notary.

43

January 26, 1770 Book III, page 624

Nicolas Laignon—major son of Jean Laignon and Perrete Lafiteau; native of *prochux romet* [?], diocese of Lomez in Gascogne.

Marie Anne Guedon—native of Natchitoches; widow of Joseph Le Duc.

Witnesses for groom: Andre Rambin; Jean Piseros, merchant.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Laberry; Alexis Grappe, both *beau-freres* of the bride.

Signed: N Laignon; X Bride; Rambin; Laberry; Piseros; Alexis grappe; DeMesiere.

44

February 10, 1770 Book III, page 663

MATHIEU PLAISANCE—native of Pot in Biere, diocese of Lescar; major son of Jean Plaisance and Jeanne Marcon.

MARGUERITE TOUTIN—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Charles Toutin and Jeanne Guedon; under the authority of Jean Baptiste Laberry, her *beau-pere.*

Witnesses for groom: Dominique Monteche; Jean Baptiste Laberry.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Louis Caesaire Borme, captain and commandant of the militia; Alexis Grappe, her maternal uncle.

Property of groom: As a marriage settlement, the groom brings 1000 *livres* into the marriage.

Property of bride: The bride owns 1122 *livres* and 3 *sols,* coming from her rights in her father's property.

Signed: Borme; X Bride; Alexis grappe; X Groom; X Dominique Monteche; Laberry; X of the mother; Demesiere.

45

August 28, 1771 Book IV, page 516

PAUL BOUET LAFITTE—major son of Francois Lafitte and Marianne Lafitte; native of *Pouyrodore,* diocese of *l'ectou.*

MAGDELAINE GRAPPE—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Alexis Grappe and Louise Marguerite Guedon.

Witnesses for groom: Louis Deblanc; Andre Rambin.

Witnesses for bride: Henry Trichele; Nicolas Laignon.

Property of groom: 1500 *livres,* given to the bride as a marriage settlement.

Property of bride: The mother of the bride gives to her daughter one young negresse named Jeanne, who is now at the village of the Caddo Indians with her master. This slave, valued at 1500 *livres,* will be delivered when the father of the bride returns.

Signed: Bouet Laffitte; X Henry Trichele; X Bride; N. Laignon; Louis De Blanc; Rambin; Athan. De Mesiere.

[A portion of this document containing some writing is torn off.]

46

March 3, 1772 Book IV, page 526

Louis Vercher—minor son of Jacques Vercher and Catherine Dumont; native of the Prairie of Ste. Magdelaine, diocese of Canada.
Marie Louise Grillet—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Marin Grillet and Marie Louise Brevel.
Witnesses for groom: Pierre Chauvin; Joseph Latie.
Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Brevel; Louis Buart.
Property: The groom declares that he accepts the bride without a dowry.
Signed: Louis Vercher; Chauvin; Latie; Grillet; Mariluis grillet; X Jn. Bte. Brevel; X Louis Buart; Ant. Charbonnet; De Mezieres.

47

April 6, 1772 Book IV, page 735

Guillermo Vadel
Theresa Bastiena—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Pedro Bastian Prudome and Juana Xeben[?].
Signed: Metoyer; Guillaume chever; X of the father; X of the mother; Prudhomme; William Warden; X Bride; J. De la Pena.
[This document is written in Spanish.]

48

Red River Parish Courthouse
March 4, 1774 Natchitoches Book 1, page 5

Elie Bernard—major son.
Eleonore Chaignot—minor daughter of deceased Francois Chaignot and Marie Lacroix.
Witnesses for groom: Villard; Augustin Lorens.
Witnesses for bride: Marie Lacroix, her mother and tutrix; Dominique Monteche; Alexis Grappe.
Property of groom: 50 *piastres;* One-tenth of his goods is given to the bride as a marriage settlement.
Property of bride: furniture and utensils for use in a house valued at 30 *piastres;* one cow; one-half arpent of land at the *coste de Jullain,* bordered on one side by her mother and on the other by Jeanne Chaignot, her sister; one tract of land at the *Isle aux Chevaux,*

consisting of eleven fathoms and four feet, bordered on one side by Jeanris and on the other by Jeanne Chaignot, her sister.

Signed: Armant; Langlois; Alexis Grappe; X Groom; X Bride; X *Veuve* Chegnon; X Dominique Monteche; X Augustin Lorens; Villard; Villiers.

49

July 1, 1774 Book VII, page 985

Jean Baptiste Le Duc called Villefranche—soldier of the militia; major son of deceased Joseph Le Duc du Villefranche and Marianne Guedon; native of Natchitoches.

Marie Louise Larenaudiere—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Charles Renaudiere and Marie Jeane ———[water stained].

Witnesses for groom: Jacques Hubert; Marie Josef Armant.

Witnesses for bride: Andre Rambin, corporal of the militia; Remy Tausin, soldier of the militia.

Signed: X Groom; X Bride; Armant; Hubert; Rambin; X Remy Tausin; De Mezieres.

50

October 7, 1775 Book VII, page 1017

Louis Gabriel Buart—major son of deceased Gabriel Buart and Marianne Rousseau native of Natchitoches.

Marie Rose Lambre—minor daughter of Jean Lambre and Marie Le Vasseur; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Marianne Rousseau, his mother; Marin Grillet; Remis Poissot.

Witnesses for bride: Jacob Lambre, her uncle; Lambre, her father; Marie Jeanne Le Vasseur, her mother; Dominique Monteche, husband, in second marriage, of her grandmother.

Property of groom: one farm, a house, and one able-bodied Negro valued at 2900 *livres;* property coming from the succession of his father; marriage settlement of 1000 *livres* for the bride.

Property of bride: one young Negress named Jeanne valued at 1200 *livres.*

Signed: Marie rose Lambre; X L. G. Buard; Marie Anene roussau *veuve* buard; X Jac. Lambre; X Jn. Lambre; X Dominique Monteche; Poisot; Grillet; De Mezieres; Doucet; Antoine Vuaucocu[?].

51

April 7, 1776 Book X, page 1199

Julien Besson—major son of deceased Jean Baptiste Besson and Marrie Louise Guemon; native of Natchitoches.

Marie de Liveau———bin[?] Vildeque—daughter of deceased Pierre Vildeque and Catherine Duprey; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Bernard Dortalant; Manuel Trichele.

Witnesses for bride: Remy Poissot, retired lieutenant of the militia, her *aieul;* Jacob Lambre, her uncle.

Property of groom: one able-bodied Negro valued at 1500 livres; one arpent of land on the riverfront with a depth of forty arpents; one herd of cattle and horses at a cattle ranch, and a house situated at the place named *Les Laynoirs*, about 25 miles from this post, all valued at 2500 *livres*.

Property of bride: interest in the property of her deceased father.

Signed: Jullien Besson; X Marie Vildeque; B. Dortolant; Manuel trichele; Poissot; X M. J. Lambre; De Mezieres; Nicholas Fournier.

52

April 22, 1776 Book X, page 1202

Andre Antoine Rambin—sergeant in the company at this post; major son of deceased Andre Rambin, who resided at Natchitoches while living, and Marie Francoise Clermont; native of New Orleans.

Marie Catherine Buart—daughter of deceased Gabriel Buart and Marie Anne Rousseau; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Marie Francoise Clermont, his mother; Jean Baptiste Dubois, his uncle; Jean Ladee, his cousin.

Witnesses for bride: Marie Anne Rousseau, her mother; Louis Buart, her brother; Marin Grillet.

Property of groom: sum of 1750 *livres* in good specie.

Property of bride: one able-bodied Negress named Julie, valued at 1750 livres, coming from the succession of her father.

Signed: Andre Rambin; marie catherine Buard; marie Francoise clermont; Bt Dubois; *veuve* buard; Jean Lede; grillte; X Louis Buart; De Mezieres; Nicolas Fournier; F. Doucet.

53

July 29, 1776 Book VIII, page 1126

Francois De' laRoche—native of Havre de Grace, province of Normandy, bishopric of Rouen; son of Pierre Honore D'la Roche and Marie Jeanne Le Roy.

Marie Francoise Malbert—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Jean Baptiste Malbert and Jeanne Verger.

Witnesses for groom: Andre Escla——; Jean Pierre Allard.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Malbert, her father; Jeanne Verger, her mother; Gaspar Derbanne; Joseph Verger, her uncles.

Property of groom: 3625 *livres*, 9 *sols*, and 6 *deniers*.

Property of bride: 3600 *livres* coming from her mother and father.

Signed: Athanse. De Mezieres; francois D'laroche; Jean Pierre Allard; malber; F. Doucet; Antoinne Vasecocu[,]; G. Derbanne.

54

October 9, 1776 Book VIII, page 1113

Bernard Dortolan—native of Bordeaux; major son of Raymond D'ortolan and Marie Jeanne Labatu.

Marie Anne Grappe—daughter of deceased Alexis Grappe, who was sergeant of the infantry and interpreter for His Majesty to the Indian nations, and Louise Marguerite Guesnon.

Witnesses for groom: Monsieur Coulon Chevalier de Villiers; *Monsieur* Joseph Poirier.

Witnesses for bride: Nicolas Laignon; Jean Baptiste La Berry, her uncles.

Property of groom: The groom declares that when he left Europe he knew nothing certain about inheriting from a succession, donation, or legacy.

Property of bride: one arpent of land, a square, situated in the *bourg* of this post; one Negress named Marie Jeanne valued at 1500 *livres* minted at Tours.

Signed: Bernard d:ortolant; X Marianne Grappe; J. Chevalier Poiret; Laberry; *le Chev.* de Villiers; fr. Doucet; Nicolas fournier; De Mezieres; N. Laignon.

55

December 21, 1776 Book IX, page 1143

Francois Le Doux—native of Pointe Coupee, Province of Louisiana, bishopric of Havana; son of deceased Pierre Le Doux and deceased Cecile Rondeau.

Marguerite Roujot—native of Mobile; daughter of Jean Baptiste Roujot, retired subdelegate of the *intendant* of this province, and guardian of the Very Christian King's storehouse in this post, here present, and deceased Marguerite de Mouy.

Witnesses for groom: Joseph Poirier; Bouet Laffitte.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Roujot, her father; Jean Louis Cezaire Borme, captain of the militia; *Monsieur le Chevalier* Coulon de Villiers; *Demoiselle* Elizapeth de Mouy, her maternal aunt.

Property of groom: interest in the inheritance from his parents, which is under the power of Bourdelon, his *beau-frere* and tutor, resident of Pointe Coupee.

Property of bride: property coming from the inheritance from her mother.

Signed: Marguerite Roujot; Francois Le Doux; Jn. Bte. Roujot; Elizabeth demouy; Borme; le Chev. de Villiers; Bouet Laffitte; J. Chevalier; f. Doucet; De Mezieres; Nicolas fournier.

56

January 5, 1778 Book XI, page 1241

Pierre Brosset—major son of Jean Brosset and Jeanne Tutin; native of Fondcouvertes at Xaintes in Xaintonge.

Marie Joseph Grillet—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Marin Grillet and Marie Louise Breuvelle.

Witnesses for groom: Pierre Badin; Etienne Pavie.

Witnesses for bride: Marin Grillet, her father; Louis Versere, her *beau-frere;* Louis Buart.

Signed: Mari jose gielle; grillte; E. Pavie; Badin; Louis Buard signed by E. Pavie; Borme; Delasserre; ver cher; f. cois Rambin.

57

May 4, 1778 Book XII, page 1290

Pierre Bailliot—widower of deceased Catherine Poisot; native of Negre-Pelisse, province of Quercy, France, parish of Ste. Anne; son of Jean Baillot and Catherine La Fon.

Marie Anne Cheletre—daughter of Michel Cheletre and Anne Barbe Pommier; native of Des Allemands, parish of St. Charles.

Witnesses for groom: Jacob Lambre; Pierre Badin.

Witnesses for bride: Michel Cheletre; Marin Grillet; Jean Baptiste Laberry.

Property of groom: interest in the property of his deceased wife, the inventory made January 24, 1778.

Property of bride: sum of 2000 *livres* minted in Tours, coming from her gains and savings as a young girl.

Signed: X Marieanne Cheletre; Baillio; Badin; Laberry; grillte; X Michel Cheletre; Bouet Laffitte; Poissot; Jacques Lambre; Roujot; Borme.

58

June 11, 1778 Book XII, page 1297

Jean Baptiste Armant—son of Joseph Marie Armant and deceased Cecile Normans; native of Louisbourg, parish of St. Louis, bishopric of Quebec.

Marie Felicite Dupain—daughter of deceased Pierre Emmanuel Victor Dupain and deceased Jeanne Catherine Allorge; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Joseph Marie Armant, his father, merchant in this post; Dame Therys Le Gros, wife, in second marriage, of Joseph Marie Armant; Jean Baptiste Archaud St. Anne; Pierre Dartigaux, both merchants; Louis Armant, his brother.

Witnesses for bride: Pierre Emmanuel Victor Dupain, her father; Jean Baptiste Prudhomme, her maternal uncle; Etienne Pavie; Pierre Metoyers, merchants of this post.

Property of groom: 1000 *piastres* in coined money, coming from his gains and savings.

Property of bride: 10,000 *livres* minted in Tours, from her parents.

Signed: felecite dupain; jean Bt. Armant; pier. Dupain; Arnue[?]; E. Pavie; D'artigaux; Ailaud Ste. Anne; prudhomme; Metoyer; Andre Rambin; De Mezieres; Nicolas Fournier.

59

November 21, 1778 Book IX, page 1148

Louis Toutin—major son of deceased Charles Toutin and Jeanne Guesdon; native of Natchitoches.

Marie Silvie Huberdeau—native of Natchitoches; daughter of deceased Pierre Huberdeau and Marie Jeanne Barbier.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Lambre; Pierre Badin.

Witnesses for bride: Marie Jeanne Barbier, her mother; Jean Baptiste La Berry; Manuel Trichele.

Signed: X Groom; Marie Jeanne Barbie; Laberry; Manuel trichele; Badin; X Jean Lambre; g. derbanne; De Mezieres.

60

June 17, 1779 Book XIV, page 1403

Louis Fontenot—resident of Opelousas; major son of Filippe Fontenot and Marie Brignac; native of Mobile, Alabama.

Pelagie Grappe—minor daughter of Alexis Grappe, sergeant of the infantry and interpreter for his Catholic Majesty, and Marie Louise Guesnon; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Trichele; Louis La Malathie; Jean Baptiste Davion; Dominique Davion.

Witnesses for bride: Marie Louise Guesnon, her mother; Marie Louise Grappe, her sister; Jean Baptiste La Berry; Nicolas Laignon, her uncles.

Property of groom: one herd of twenty-four horned-cattle at Opelousas; two able-bodied Negroes named Pierre and ——[?]——.

Property of bride: one bed; one arpent of land situated in this post at the *Isle aux Chevaux;* one able-bodied Negresse named Helene, valued at 1500 *piastres, livres* minted in Tours; ten horned-cattle; five horses; one Negro named Jacques, one Negress named Marie, and five horned-cattle valued at 700 *piastres.*

Signed: pelagi grappes; X Louis Fontenaut; Bte. triche; Laberry; Louis Lamalatie; Me Louise grappe thle; N. Laignon; X Louise Gedon Grappes; X J. Bte. Davion, pere; X J. Bte. Davion, *fils*; De Mezieres; Metoyer; Pie. Dupain.

61

July 26, 1779 Boox XIV, page 1404

Jacques Fort—native of St. Jean du Caves [Canes?], province of Perigeux, bishopric of Perigeux; son of Pierre Fort and Marie Marte.

Marie Francoise Malbert—widow of deceased D'laroche; native of Natchitoches; minor daughter of Jean Baptiste Malbert and Jeanne Verger.

Witnesses for groom: Lacaze; Louis Lamalatie.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Malbert, her father; Jeanne Verger, her mother; Gaspar Darbanne, her uncle; Andre Rambin.

Property of groom: 300 *piastres.*

Property of bride: 360 *livres*, coming from her parents.

Signed: Borme; jacques fort; X Marie Francoise Malbert; Andre Rambin; Pl. Marcollay; Louis lamalaly; f. cois Rambin; Marcollay; Lacaze.

62

December 1, 1779 Book XV, page 1450

Etienne Pavie—merchant of this post; major son of Josephe Pavie, resident of La Rochelle, and Marie Janne Couasse; native of La Rochelle, capital of the Province of Aunis, bishopric of La Rochelle.

Thereze Buart—major daughter of deceased Gabriel Buart and Marie Anne Rousseau; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Joseph Pavie, his brother; Andre Rambin, his *beau-frere.*

Witnesses for bride: Marie Anne Rousseau, her mother; Louis Buart, her brother; Marin Grillet.

Property of groom: sum of 18,000 *livres* minted in Tours, in good specie, coming from the succession of his parents.

Property of bride: one small mulatresse aged twelve, named Marie Louise, *creole* of this post, valued at 1250 *livres*; 500 *livres* minted at Tours, coming from the succession of her father; 1240 *piastres*; four mother-cows valued at 60 *piastres.*

Signed: E. Pavie; Therese Buard; jph. pavie; X Louis Buart; Andre Rambin; Grillet; Marcollay; Borme; Ailhaud Ste. Anne; *Veuve* Buard.

63

October 6, 1780 Book XVI, page 1508

JEAN POMMIER—major son of Pierre Pommier and Marie Barbe Narer; native of des Allemands, parish of St. Charles, Louisiana.

MARIE DUPRE—daughter of deceased Robert Dupre and deceased Marie Cave; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Pierre Bailliot; Jacques Christill.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Lalande, her *bel-oncle* and tutor; Baptiste Teel; Joseph Dupre, her uncles.

Property: Both parties have an interest in the succession of their parents.

Signed: Baillio; Jacques Cristille; Lalande; Ste. Anne; Vaugine; X Jean Pommier; X Marie Dupre; X Bte. Dupre [uncle of the bride]; Roujot; X Joseph Dupre.

64

October 10, 1780 Book XIX, page 1839

LOUIS MONNET—major son of deceased Pierre Mathieu Monnet and deceased Babet Rachal; native of Natchitoches.

WIDOW BAPTISTE DUPRE—daughter of deceased Jean Baptiste Lecompte and Marguerite Le Roy; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Francois Rouquier; Etienne Pavie.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Ailhaut Ste. Anne; Francois Calle.

Property of groom: one Negress, *creol* named Francoise, 23 years old, with three children: Remy, 6; Marie Louise, 3; Charles, 1½, valued at 1500 *piastres* in Spanish money; one young *negrillion* named Antoine, 15, valued at 500 *piastres*; one small mulatress named Dorothee, 7, valued at 500 *piastres*; one small Negro named Athanaze, 7, valued at 400 *piastres;* one small Negress, 3, named Nanette, valued at 200 *piastres;* one small Negress, Marie Joseph, 2, valued at 100 *piastres;* one Negro named Joseph, about 22, valued at 700 *piastres;* one Negress, Therese, 40, mother of three children, valued at 300 *piastres*; forty mother-cows and their calves, valued at 600 *piastres*; twenty bulls and heifers at 20 *piastres*; four arpents of land at one league from the post, on the east side of the river, bordered above by Athanaze Poisot and below by the bride, with two *engars volant* valued at 460 piastres; sum of 15 piastres.

Property of bride: one farm of four arpents and four fathoms of frontage land, situated at one league from this post, bordered above by the groom, and below by Jean Varaque, with one house, made with posts in the ground, with a plain covering [roof], plus one bad storehouse, all valued at 500 *piastres;* seven arpents of land, at 25 miles from the post, bordered above by Embroise Lecompte and below by Julien Rachal, valued at 210 *piastres*; twenty arpents at the land *des deserts*, bordered above by Widow Baudouin and below by Laberry called Bayonne, valued at 200 *piastres*; one Negro named Jean, *creole*, more than fifty years old, valued at 450 *piastres*; one Negro, named Cupidon, more than 50 years old, valued at 450 *piastres;* one Negress named Pelagie, more than thirty years old, valued at 500 *piastres;* one Negress named Marianne, age twenty-one, valued at 600 *piastres;* one Negress named Jeannette from Guinee, 33, valued at 500 *piastres*; one Negress named Marguerite from Guinee, 30, valued at 500 *piastres;* one Negro named Michel from Guinee, 40, valued at 500 *piastres*; one Negro named Jean Pierre from Guinee, 28, valued at 600 *piastres*; one Negro named Enbroise, from Guinee, 50, valued at 350 *piastres.*

Signed: Louis Monet; X *Veuve* Bte. Dupre; Ailhaud Ste. Anne; fcois Calle; E. Pavie; frs. Rouquier; Jh. Capuran; Paul Marcollay; Pierre Rousseau.

65

October 10, 1781 Unbound

Louis Bertrand—major son of deceased Pierre Bertrand and deceased Jeanne; native of Natchitoches.

Izabelle Davion—native of Natchitoches; daughter of deceased Jean Baptiste Davion and Marie Hyacinthe.

Witnesses for groom: Ailhaut Ste. Anne; Jean Baptiste Larenaudiere; Louis Borme, junior.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Davion, her oldest brother; Jean Baptiste Roujot.

Property of groom: 100 *piastres* from deceased Pierre Bertrand called Dauphine.

Property of bride: interest in the succession of her father.

Signed: Ailhaud Ste. Anne; Bte. la Renaudiere; Borme *fils*; Roze; Vaugine; Roujot.

66

January 5, 1782 Boox XVII, page 1584

Francois Rouquier—merchant of this post; major son of Mirre Rouquier and Marie Rouquier; native of *la ville Dupuis l'eveque*, bishopric of Cahors in Quercy.

Marie Louise Prudhomme—minor daughter of Jean Baptiste Prudhomme, retired major surgeon of this post for His Very Christian Majesty, and Marie Joseph Collautin; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Roujot; Paul Marcollay.

Witnesses for bride: Pierre Dupain, her *bel-oncle*; Pierre Allorge, her *bel-oncle.*

Property of groom: 16,000 *livres* in silver.

Property of bride: Her parents give one house situated in the *bourg* of this post, bordered on one side by the said parents and on the other by Dupain, valued at 200 *piastres*; one *Negritte creolle* named Marie, valued at 300 *piastres;* 500 *piastres* to purchase a Negress.

Signed: francois Rouquier; Marie Louise Prudhomme; prudhomme; marie joshep colautin; Allorge; pierre Dupain; Manuel prudhomme; Marcollay; Roujot; j, m, armant; Vaugine.

67

December 28, 1782 Book XVIII, page 1636

Pierre Dolay—minor son of deceased Pierre Dolet and Marie Louise Toutin; native of Natchitoches.

Marie Roze Dupre—daughter of deceased Joseph Dupre and Marie Derbanne; native of Natchitoches; sixteen years old.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Laberry, his *beau-grandpere*; Maurice Demouy.

Witnesses for bride: Athanaze Poisot, her uncle and curator; Jean Baptiste Derbanne, her god-father.

Property of groom: interest in the succession of his mother; payments from the principle of 28,000 *livres*, 1250 *livres* each year, from the succession, at Mons in Haynaut, of his grandmother.

Property of bride: interest in the property of her father.

Signed: Pierre Dolet; Laberry; Maurice Demouy; X Jean Bte. Derbanne; Marcollay; Roujot; Borme; X Athze. Poisot.

68

November 25, 1785 Book XIX, page 1853

Louis Rachal—son of deceased Berthelemy Rachal and Marie Lamalathie; native of Natchitoches.

Marie Francoise Grillet—minor daughter of Marin Grillet and Marie Louise Brevel; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Gaspard Fiol, his uncle and tutor; Andre David.

Witnesses for bride: Jacques le Vasseurs; Remy Toutin.

Property of groom: 406 *piastres* in specie; eleven horned-cattle valued at 150 *piastres*; nine horses valued at 90 *piastres*.

Property of bride: The bride declares that she has no dowry.

Signed: Louis Bertelmis Rachal; X Marie France. Grillet; David; X Jacques le Vasseur; Reynaud; X Gaspard Fiol; Pierre Rousseau; Reimi toutin; Jh. Capuran.

69

Red River Parish Courthouse

April 22, 1788 Natchitoches Book I, page 12

Benoit Montanary—born at New Orleans; son of Jean Baptiste Montanary and Marguerite Talan, *creole* of Mobile.

Francoise Grappe—daughter of Alexis Grappe and Marie Louise Guedon; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Paul Marcollay; Pierre Badin.

Witnesses for bride: Bernard D'Ortholant; Francois Rambin.

Property of groom: 700 *piastres*.

Property of bride: one Negresse named Jeanete valued at 300 *piastres* in silver; three arpents of land situated on the Campte River.

Signed: Francoise Grappe; Benoit Montanary; Jh. Capuran; X *Veuve* Grappe; Guilaume delabarre; B D'Ortolant; Badin; Pl. Marcollay; F. Rambin; Louis Deblanc, acting notary.

70

September 24, 1789 Book XX, page 2186

Remy Lambre—major son of deceased Jacques Lambre and Marie Poisot; native of Natchitoches.

Suzette Prudhomme—native of Natchitoches; daughter of deceased Jean Baptiste Prudhomme and Marie Josephe Colantin.

Witnesses for groom: Pierre Badin; Andre Verdalay.

Witnesses for bride: Michel Gaspard Fiol; Francois Rouquier, his *beau-frere.*

Property of groom: Negroes, farms, and animals, valued at 12,000 *piastres.*

Property of bride: about 3500 *piastres* coming from the succession of her parents; 4000 *piastres* coming from her savings.

Signed: Suzette Prudhomme; Remy Lambre; Rouquier; fcois. Calle; Verdalay; DelaChaise Ste. Denis; X Michel Gaspard Fiol; Louis De Blanc.

71

August 31, 1791 Book XXI, page 2327

Antoine Prud'homme—major son of deceased Jean Baptiste Prud'homme and deceased Marie Joseph Colantin; native of Natchitoches.

Marie Lambre—native of Natchitoches; daughter of deceased Jacques Lambre and Marie-Anne Poisot.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Ailhaud Ste. Anne, captain of the militia; Francois Rouquier, his *beau-frere.*

Witnesses for bride: Marie Anne Poissot, her mother; Pierre Badin; Louis Buart.

Property of groom: slaves, land, and other effects valued at 3500 *piastres,* coming from the inheritance from his father and mother.

Property of bride: slaves, land, and other effects, valued at 10,400 *piastres,* coming from her father and mother.

Signed: A. Prudhomme; Marie Lambre; X Marie Anne Poisot; j Bte. Ailhaud Ste. Anne; f v Rouquier; X Louis Buard; Prudhomme; Verdalay; Louis De Blanc.

72

November 8, 1791 Book XXI, page 2331

Joseph Tauzin—major son of Gerard Tauzin and Jeanne Bertheau; native of Eauze, diocese of Auch, province of Gascogne, France.

Marie Chamard—native of Illinois, parish of Ste. Genevieve, bishopric of Havana; daughter of Louis Chamard and Marie Catherine Bardon.

Witnesses for groom: Francois Rouquier; Andre Rambin; Francois La Caze; Francois Rambin.

Witnesses for bride: Louis Charles Chamard, her father; Marie Catherine Bardon, her mother; Joseph Malige; Marianne Bardon, wife of Malige; Catherine Bardon; Ailhaud Ste. Anne, captain of the militia; Joseph Marie Armant.

Property: Each party brings into the marriage 600 *piastres.*

Signed: jh. Tauzin; Marie Chamard; Louis Charle Chamard; Catherin Chamard; joseph Malige; Marianne Maligli; catherine Bardon; j. Bte. Auilhaud Ste. Anne; Armant; franc. Lacaze; Rouquier; f. Rambint; Andre Rambin; Louis De Blanc.

73

October 23, 1792 Book XXII, page 2423

Joseph Jacques L'attier—major son of Joseph L'attier and Anne Verger; native of Natchitoches.

Francoise Cheletre—native of the parish of St. Charles des Allemands; daughter of deceased Michel Cheletre and Anne Barbe Pommier.

Witnesses for groom: Joseph Lattier; Jacques Fort; Louis Tomasino; Jean Baptiste Dubois; Francois Le Compte.

Witnesses for bride: Anne Barbe Pommier, her mother; Barnabe Cheletre; Pierre Cheletre; Francois Cheletre, her brothers; Philipe Frederic; Andre Frederic; Louis Anty.

Property of groom: one fully-dressed bed; two horses; ten horned-cattle.

Property of bride: one fully-dressed bed; five head of horses; eight horned-cattle; twenty-four *piastres*, her savings.

Signed: X Joseph Jacques Lattier; X Francoise Cheletre; Joseph; X Barnabe Cheletre; X Pierre Cheletre; X Francois Cheletre; X Jacques Fort; X Louis Anty; X Francois le Compte; X J. Bte. Du Bois; X Louis Tomasino; X Philipe Frederic; Andre Frederic; Andre Rambin; Paul Marcollay; Louis De Blanc.

74

July 6, 1793 Book XXIII, page 2466

Bernard D'Ortolant—captain of the cavalry of the militia; widower, in first marriage, of Marie Anne Grappe; native of Bordeaux, parish of St. Michel, bishopric of Bordeaux, province of Guienne, France; son of Raymond D'Ortolant and Marie Jeanne la Batut.

Catherine Bardon—native of New Orleans; daughter of Raymond Bardon and Marie-Anne Verneuil.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Ailhaud St. Anne, captain of the infantry of the militia; Paul Marcollay, sub-lieutenant of the militia; Francois Rouquier, churchwarden in charge of this parish.

Witnesses for bride: Joseph Malige; Joseph Marie Armant; Marie Catherine Bardon, wife of Louis Chamard; Marianne Bardon, wife of Joseph Malige; Marie Chamard, wife of Joseph Tauzin.

Property: Each party brings 600 *piastres* into the marriage.

Signed: Bernard Dortolant; Auilhaud Ste. Anne; Catherine Bardon; Malige; Armant; Marianne Bardon; Chamard Tauzen; Rouquier; Paul Marcollay; Louis De Blanc; Catherine Bardon.

75

July 1, 1794

Red River Parish Courthouse
Natchitoches Book I, page 30

Nicolas Martin Boudin—minor son of deceased Laurent Baudin and Micaela Rozales de Sta. Cruz; age 21; native of Natchitoches.

Louise Clemince—illegitimate daughter of Marie Louise, free Indian; native of Natchitoches.

Witnesses for groom: Micaela Rosales de Sta. Cruz, his mother; Gaspard Baudin, his brother; Marie Louise Baudin, wife of Jean Horns, his sister.

Witnesses for bride: Marie Louise, her mother; Francois Rouquier, churchwarden; Paul Marcollay, officer of the militia.

Signed: X Nicholas Martin Baudin; X Marie Louise Clemince; X Marie Louise, *Sauvagesse Libre*; X Michaela Rosales de Sta. Cruz; X Gaspard Baudin; Rouquier; X Marie Louise Horns; Louis De Blanc, acting notary; [one signature torn off].

76

July 14, 1794

Book XXV, page 2536

Francois Mercier—major son of Nicolas Mercier and Marguerite; age 38; native of Lion, France.

Marie Louise Prudhomme—native of Natchitoches; daughter of deceased Bastien Prud'homme and Jeanne Chevert.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Baptiste Ailhaud Ste. Anne, captain of the militia; Joseph Marie Armant.

Witnesses for bride: Francois Prudhomme, her *oncle charnel*; Widow Marguerite Victoire Prudhomme; Widow Durantor, her aunt.
Property: Both parties declare that they have no property.
Signed: X Marie Louise Prudhomme; X Francois Mercier; X Francois Prudhomme; X *Veuve* Durantor; Ailhaud Ste. Anne; Armant; Louis De Blanc.

77

July 21, 1794 Book XXV, page 2537

Jean Baptiste Lajeunesse—major son of Enselme Billet Lajeunesse and Marie Magdelaine la Croix; native of Arkansas and baptized at Pointe Coupee; age 26.
Marie Elizabeth—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Jean Baptiste Brevel and Marie Francoise Poisot.
Witnesses for groom: Marcel de Soto; Joseph Capuran; Francois Grappe.
Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Brevel, her father; Athanaze Poisot, her uncle; Baptiste Barthelmy, her *beau-frere.*
Property: The parties declare that they own no property.
Signed: X Jean Bte. Lajeunesse; X Bte. Brevel; X Jean Bte. Rachal; X Marie Elizabhet Brevel; Jh. Capuran; francois Grappe; Elisabelle brevelle; Marcel Desoto; Louis De Blanc; Francois Grappe for Athanace Poissot.

78

September 9, 1794 Book XXV, page 2553

Nicolas Baudoin—twenty-three years old; native of Rapides and baptized at Natchitoches; son of Francois Baudouin and Marianne Bontems.
Marie des Neiges—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Jean Baptiste Marbert and Jeanne Verger.
Witnesses for groom: Marianne Bontemps, his mother; Pierre Baudouin, his oldest brother; Francois Lattier; Francois Rouquier; Pierre Camus; Jean Marc Marchand.
Witnesses for bride: Jeanne Verger, her mother; Jacques Fort, her *beau-frere*; Jean Baptiste Lattier, her cousin; Pierre la Cour, her cousin; Paul Marcollay; Joseph Marie Armant.

The parties promise to be married as soon as a priest arrives in the post.
Property of groom: one farm situated on the river, with five arpents of frontage land; six horses, male and female.
Property of bride: maternal and paternal rights.
Signed: X Nicolas Baudoin; X Marie des Neiges Malbert; X Marieane Bontems; X Jeanne Verger; X Jacques Fort; X Pierre Baudoin; Jeanne Verge; Rouquier; Camus; Paul Marcollay; X Pierre Lacour; X J. B. Lattier; X Francois Lattier; Louis De Blanc; Armant.

79

September 9, 1794 Book XXV, page 2554

Antoine Poissot—major son of Remy Poisot and Louise Cave; native of Natchitoches.
Marie Sylvie—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Martin Goutieres and Marie Rene.
Witnesses for groom: Francois Grappe; Henry Trichel; Paul Marcollay.
Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Grappe; Michel Chaignon; Francois Rouquier; Joseph Marie Armant.
Property: The bride has 200 *piastres,* coming from her savings.
Signed: fcois Grappe; jbte Grappe; henry triche; Rouquier; Paul Marcollay; Armant; X Antoine Poissot; X Marie Sylvie; X Michel Chaignon; Louis De Blanc.

80

December 19, 1794, at Rapides Book XXVII, page 2650

Alexander Enesse—native of New York; son of James Enesse and Anne Okeley.
Helene Baillio—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Pierre Baillio and Marianne Chelletre.
Witnesses for groom: Sesar Archainard; Gilliaume Bergo.
Witnesses for bride: Charles Le Doux; Valentin Layssard.
Signed: Alexandre Innis; P. Baillio for his sister; V. Layssard; Wm. Bargo; Charles Le Doux; Cesar Aıchainard; V. Layssard.
[This document is written in Spanish.]

81

January 7, 1795 Book XXVI, page 2577

Dominique Rachal—major son of deceased Barthelemy Rachal and Marie la Malathie; native of Natchitoches.

Marie Rozalie Verchaire—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Louis Verchaire and Marie Louise Grillet.

Witnesses for groom: Marie La Malatie, his mother; Noel Rachal, his brother; Jean Baptiste Anty.

Witnesses for bride: Louis Verchaire, her father; Marie Louise Grillet, her mother; Eduard Murphy; Michel Duffy.

Property: The bride's father gives a 300 *piastres* dowry.

Signed: D. Rachal; X Marie Rozalie Verchaire; X Louis Verchaire; Anty; Noel Rachal; Michel Duffy; Murphy; Louis De Blanc.

82

January 17, 1795 Book XXVI, page 2586

Antoine Du Bois—age 26; native of Natchitoches; major son of deceased Jean Baptiste Du Bois and Marie Joseph Clermont.

Marie Joseph Malige—native of Mobile; daughter of Joseph Malige and Marie Antoinet Le Brun.

Witnesses for groom: Marie Joseph Clermont, his mother; Andre Rambin, his cousin; Louis Fonteneau.

Witnesses for bride: Joseph Malige, her father; Marianne Guedon, her *belle-mere;* Joseph Tauzin; Bernard D'Ortolant.

Property of groom: land situated in the *bourg* valued at 100 *piastres;* movables, utensils, and animals, valued at 200 *piastres.*

Property of bride: one Negress named Catherine value at 150 *piastres;* plot of land at New Orleans, Ste. Anne Street, valued at 400 *piastres;* 200 *piastres* coming from her savings.

Signed: X Antoine du Bois; X Marie Joseph Malige; Marie joseph Clermont; Marianne Bardon; Andre Rambin; Bt. Ortolant; Jh. Tauzin; Joseph Malige; X Louis Fontenau; Louis De Blanc.

83

January 19, 1795

Red River Parish Courthouse
Natchitoches Book I, page 32

CHRISTOPHE TEAL—major son of Eduard Teal, resident of this post, and Rebeca Thons; 30 years old.

MARIE LOUISE—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Francois Clavis Saydeck, resident of this district, and Ursul Chelettre.

Witnesses for groom: Edward Teal, his father; Eduard Murphy; Michel Duffy.

Witnesses for bride: Jacques McNeulty; Antoine Bowker; Francois Clavis Saydeck, her father.

Property of groom: sixty horned-cattle value at 500 *piastres;* eight horses valued at 200 *piastres;* fifty hogs valued at 200 *piastres.*

Property of bride: 150 *piastres* coming from her savings as a young girl.

Signed: X Christophe Teal; X Marie Louise Saydeck; Michel Duffy; E. Murphy; Edward Teal; Anthony Bowker; Marie De Soto; Louis De Blanc, acting notary.

84

January 21, 1795

Book XXVI, page 2592

JACQUES TEAL—native of Carolina, United States of America; age 27; major son of Eduard Teal, resident of this district, and Rebeca Thons.

ELIZABETH—daughter of Jacques Willis and Marie Ruth.

Witnesses for groom: Eduard Teal, his father; Eduard Murphy; Michel Duffy.

Witnesses for bride: Antoine Bowker, her *beau-pere;* Jacques McNeulty; Marcel de Soto.

Property of groom: thirty-five horned-cattle valued at 250 *piastres;* twenty-six horses valued at 350 *piastres;* thirty hogs valued at 400 *piastres.*

Property of bride: 200 *piastres.*

Signed: X Jacques Teal; X Elizabeth; Anthony Bowker; Murphy; Michel Duffy; Edward teal; J. McNulty; Marcel Desoto; Louis De Blanc.

85

January 26, 1795 Book XXVI, page 2594

HIPOLITE BORDELON—age 25; native of Pointe Coupee; major son of Nicholas Bordelon and Adrienne Rondeau.

MARIE THEREZE TRICHEL—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Emanuel Trichel; and Marie Louise Grappe.

Witnesses for groom: Bernard D'Ortolant, captain of the militia's cavalry; Louis Fonteneau; Antoine Bordelon, his cousin.

Witnesses for bride: Henry Trichel; Bouet Laffitte, *fils,* her cousin; Louis Lamalathie; Jean Adle.

Property of groom: 400 *piastres,* including one Negro named Antoine.

Property of bride: 600 *piastres.*

Signed: X Hipolite Bordelon; Marie Therese Triche; B. D'Ortolant; X Louis Fontenaut; Louis Lamalaty; Jean Adle; Bouet Laffitte; Henry Triche; Antoine Bordelon; Louis De Blanc.

86

September 15, 1795 Book XXVI, page 2634

PIERRE ZARICHI—major son of Michel Zarichi and Marie Tamien; native of Nice, dependent of the Republic of Venice.

CECILE DUPRE—native of Natchitoches; daughter of decease Robert Dupre and Manon Cave.

Witnesses for groom: Marin Grillet; Pierre Cheletre; Miguel Ernandez.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Pommier, here *beau-frere* and tutor; Remy Poissot, her uncle; Andre Frederic.

Property of groom: 1500 *piastres* coming from his business earnings.

Property of bride: 400 *piastres.*

Signed: X Pierre Zarichi; X Cicile Dupre; X Jean Pommier; X Remy Poissot; X Pierre Cheletre; X Miguel Ernandez; X Andre Frederic; Grillle; frans. Lacaze; jean francois frederic; jn. pr. Duforest; Louis De Blanc.

87

September 22, 1795 Book XXVII, page 2636

Francois Rouquier—junior

Marie-Anne Buard

The party was married May 12, 1795.

Witnesses for groom: Marin Grillet; Paul Marcollay.

Witnesses for bride: Joseph Marie Armant; Joseph Tauzin.

Property of groom: 600 *piastres.*

Property of bride: 4000 *piastres* in slaves, a farm, horned-cattle, and including 1100 *piastres* which she inherited from her parents.

Signed: Rouquier *jeune;* Paul Marcollay; Marie Ane Buard rouquier; Grillte; J. Armant; Jh. Tauzin; Louis De Blanc.

88

November 18, 1795 Book XXVII, page 2641

Jean Baptiste Buard—major son of deceased Gabriel Buard and Marieanne Rousseau; native of Natchitoches.

Marie Genievieve Le Vasseur—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Francois le Vasseur and deceased Marie Jeanne Madert.

Witnesses for groom: Louis Buard, his brother; Jean Baptiste Ailhaud Ste. Anne, captain of the militia; Pierre Metoyer; Eduard Murphy; Francois Mouginot; Andre Rambin; Francois Rouquier, junior, his *beaux-freres* and witnesses.

Witnesses for bride: Francois Le Vasseur, her father; Jean Francois Le Vasseur, her bother; Jean Baptiste Anty, her *beau-frere.*

Property of groom: 3000 *piastres*

Property of bride: 600 *piastres,* including 231 *piastres* and 5 *escalin* which she inherited from her mother.

Signed: X Marie Genieveve le Vasseur; X Francois le Vassuer; X Louis Buard; Bte. Buard; Metoyer; Murphy; andre Rambin; Rouquier *jeune;* Anty; francois LeVasseur; Louis De Blanc; Felix Trudeau; Frans. Lacaze; Paul Marcollay.

89

November 25, 1795 Book XXVII, page 2645

Jean Denis Buard—major son of deceased Gabriel Buard and deceased Marie-Anne Rousseau; native of Natchitoches.

Victoire Poisseau—native of Natchitoches; daughter of Remy Poisseau and Louise Cave.

Witnesses for groom: Louis Baptiste Buard, his brother; Augustin Buard, his brother; Eduard Murphy; Andre Ranbin, his *beau-frere;* Rouquier, junior, his *beau-frere.*

Witnesses for bride: Remy Poisseau, her father; Emmanuel Prudhomme; Antoine Prudhomme.

Property of groom: 3000 *piastres.*

Property of bride: 800 *piastres* in coin of the realm, hard cash.

Signed: X Victoire Poisseau; X Remy Poisseau; X Louis Buard; Jean Denis Buard; Murphy; Bte. Buard; A. Prudhomme; Remy perot; Derbanne; Prudhomme; Louis De Blanc.

90

April 21, 1796 Book XXVII, page 2693

Jean Baptiste Grappe—major son of deceased Alexis Grappe and Marie Louise Guedon; native of Natchitoches.

Genivieve Sorel—native of Natchitoches: daughter of deceased Pierre Sorel and Marie Rose Boiseiller.

Witnesses for groom: Julien Besson; Francois Grappe, his brothers.

Witnesses for bride: Augustin Frederic, her *beau-frere;* Luc Sorel, her brother.

Property of groom: 900 *piastres* in slaves, animals, and land.

Property of bride: 300 *piastres* in land, a Negress named Catherine, and cash.

Signed: X J. Bte. Grappe; X Genivieve Sorel; X Augustin Frederic; f.s. Grappe; Armant; Jullien Besson; X Luc Sorel; Lamathe; Louis De Blanc.

91

February 1, 1797 Book XXVIII, page 2746

Marie Athanasse Poissot—native of Natchitoches; son of Athanasse Poissot and Marie Sotto.

Marie Louise Helene Euphrosine Pavie—daughter of deceased Etienne Pavie and Thereze Buard, now wife of Pierre Metoyer.

Witnesses for groom: Athanas Poissot, his father; Emannuelle Prudhomme; Remy Lambre, his cousin.

Witnesses for bride: Therese Buart, her mother; Pierre Metoyer, her *beau-pere;* Jean Baptiste Buard, her uncle; Edouard Murphy; Jean Baptiste Ailhaud Ste. Anne; Andre Ranbin, her *bel-oncles.*

Property of groom: 1370 *piastres* coming from his work and industry; His parents give him eight arpents of frontage land on the Red River, bordered on one side by Murphy, who bought his land from Jean Varanque.

Property of bride: 3000 *piastres* and 6 *reaux,* coming from the succession of her father.

Signed: Athanase Poisot *fils;* Metoyer; helene pavie; Therese Buard; X Athanasse Poissot; Remy Lambre; Murphy; J Bte Buard; Prudhomme; Rouquier *jeune;* Andre Rambin; Ailhaud Ste. Anne; Dubois; Rouquier; Felix Trudeau.

92

February 4, 1797 Book XXVIII, page 2748

Daniel Bedle—widower of Sara Flecher; native of Jersey.

Renne Barbe Clavis Saiteck—daughter of Pierre Clavis Saiteck and Ursule Sheleter.

Witnesses for groom: Edward Murphy; Denis Buart.

Witnesses for bride: Pierre Clavis Saiteck, her father; Pierre Sheleter, her uncle; Andre Frederic, her *bel-oncle;* Barnabe Sheleter.

Property of groom: 150 *piastres.*

Property of bride: four mother-cows.

Signed: X Renne Barbe Clavis Saiteck; Daniel Bedle; X Pierre Clavis Saiteck; X Barnabe Scheleter; X Pierre Sheleter; X Andre Frederick; Denis Buard; Murphy; Dubois; Felix Trudeau.

93

May 8, 1797 Book XXVIII, page 2787

Jacques Teal—widower of Elizabeth Willing.

Marie Rose Clavis Sayteck called Lecompte—daughter of Pierre Clavis Saiteck and Ursule Sheleter; resident of this post.

Witnesses for groom: Edward Teal, his father; Antoine Bowker; Jean Horn.

Witnesses for bride: Clavis Sayteck; Pierre Cheleter, her uncle; Francois Cheleter, her uncle.

Property of groom: 1400 *piastres.*

Property of bride: The bride declares that she brings nothing into the marriage except her rights of inheritance.

Signed: X Marie Rose Clavis Sayteck; X Jacques Teal; Edward Teal; X Pierre Clavis Sayteck; Pierre Sheleter; X Andre Frederic; X Francois Sheleter; Anthony Bowker; Simon Buney; Daniel Bedle; Dubois; Paul Marcollay; J. Horn; Felix Trudeau.

94

November 8, 1797 Book XXVIII, page 2812

Louis Derbanne—major son of deceased Pierre Derbanne and Marie Leclerc native of Natchitoches.

Marie Francoise Rachal—daughter of deceased Barthelemy Rachal and Marie Lamalatie.

Witnesses for groom: Joseph Derbanne, his brother; Manuel Derbanne, his brother; Manuel Prudhomme; Versailles; Jean Baptiste Anty.

Witnesses for bride: Louis Rachal, her maternal uncle; Remy Lambre, her god-father; Noel Rachal, her brother; Boete Lafite.

Property of groom: 100 *piastres;* 400 *piastres* as a marriage settlement.

Property of bride: 200 *piastres* from the succession of her father.

Signed: Derbanne; francois Berthemy Rachal; Anty; X Louis Rachal; Remy Lambre; Prudhomme; Jh. Derbanne; P. Chalen; Manuelle Rachal; manuelle Derbanne; Bouet Laffitte *fils;* Dubois; Felix Trudeau.

95

January 25, 1798 Book XXVIII, page 2824

Jean Baptiste Buhart—widower of Marie Jeanne Levasseur.

Marie Poissot—daughter of deceased Remy Poissot and Marie Louise Cave.

Witnesses for groom: Augustin Buhart; Edward Murphy; Francois Rouquier, junior; Baptiste Anty, his brothers, *beaux-freres,* and friends.

Witnesses for bride: Athanasse Poissot, her uncle and tutor; Remy Lambre, her god-father; Francois Rouquier, senior.

Property of groom: 3000 *piastres;* He gives to the bride 300 *piastres* as a marriage settlement.

Property of bride: 1200 *piastres* from the succession of her father.

Signed: Marie Poissaut; Bte. Buard; Augustins Buard; X Athanasse Poissot; Remy Lambre; Murphy; Paul Marcollay; Anty; Dubois; Felix Trudeau.

96

October 6, 1798 Book XXX, page 2864

Paul Poissot—son of Remy Poissot and Marie Louise Cave.

Marie Louise Anty—daughter of Jean Baptiste Anty and deceased [blank] Galien.

Witnesses for groom: Athanase Poissot, his uncle and tutor; Remy Lambre.

Witnesses for bride: Jean Baptiste Anty, her father; Emanuel Prudhomme; Antoine Prudhomme.

Property of groom: 2000 *piastres.*

Property of bride: interest in the future succession of her father.

Signed: X Paul Poissot; X Me. Louise Anty; X Ath. Poissot; Remy Lambre; Anty; Prudhomme; A. Prudhomme; Rouquier; Nicolas Galien; Guerbois; Dubois; Felix Trudeau.

November 7, 1803 Book XXXI, page 3074

Jean Baptiste Jacques Paillet—son of Pierre Jorge Paillet and Suzanne Roy.

Marie Victoire Poisot—widow of Denis Buard; daughter of deceased Remy Poisot and Marie Louise Cave.

Witnesses for groom: Jean Gorbier; Francois Rouquier, junior.

Witnesses for bride: Paul Poissot; Jean Baptiste Buard; Louis Buard, her brother and *beaux-freres.*

Property of groom: 5000 *piastres,* as much in hard cash as in animals.

Property of bride: 4000 *piastres* in farms, Negroes, cash, and animals; 1299 *piastres* and 5 *reaux* from the inheritance of her daughter, Marianne Buard.

Signed: X Me. Victoire Poissot; Paillet; X Paul Poissot; Rouquier *jeune;* gorbier; Bte. Buard; Guerbois; Felix Trudeau.

Appendix

A supplementary list of other marriage contract entries found in the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse INDEX OF CONVEYANCES.*

1736

Francoise Manne - Jeanne Dion Derbanne, no. 12

1739

Georges Havenel - Marie Francoise Renaudiere

1740

Jean Baptiste Derbanne - Marguerite V. Gonzal, no. 31

1745

Baptiste Davion - Marie Trichel, no. 85

1747

Jean Baptiste Boulet called Brind - Marie Anne Verge

1748

Mathieu Perot - Elizabeth Rachal, no. 107½.

1750-1760

Jean Baptiste Conte called Leconte - Marguerite Le Roy, no. 174

Noel Gallien - Marie Rachal, no. 137

Jacques Lambre - Therese Levasseur, no. 142

Jacques Lambre - Marianne Poissot, no. 286

Vincent Poirier - Jeanne Richy, no. 279

Jean Baptiste Prudhomme - Francoise Chevert, no. 175

Jean Baptiste Prudhomme - Marie Joseph Collantin, no. 201

Charles Toutin - Widow Jean Laberry, no. 268

Pierre Tristans - Marguerite Prudhomme, no. 136

1767-1768

Pierre Gaignys - Marie Louise Davion, no. 534

1770

Francois Closseaux - Marie Anne Daublin, no. 626

1773

Athanase Poissot - Marie De Soto, no. 799

1777

Julien Besson - Marie Lavilledeque, no. 1199

Jacques Hubert - Widow Larenaudiere, no. 1198

1779

Jacques David - Marie Ann Dartigaux, no. 1359

1780

Francois Paul Bossier - Catherine Pelagie Lambre, no. 1487

1783

Remi Toutin—Marguerite Grillet, no. 1684

1784

Guillaume Chevert - Marie Marguerite Toutin, Widow Plaisance, no. 1755

Pierre Larenodiere - Jeanne Laberry, no. 1730

Jacques Levasseur - Marie Thereze Grillet, no. 1780

Joseph Lauran - Marie Morin, no. 1724

Manuel Prudhomme - Catherine Lambre, no. 1697

Louis Thomassine - Catherine Lattier, no. 1707

1786

Pierre Joseph Maes - Marianne Dartigaux, Widow David, no. 1892

Francois Levasseur - Marie Jeanne Grillet, no. 1863

Edward Murphy - Elizabeth Jeanne Buard, no. 1867

1787

Sylvestre Bossier - Marie Jeanne Lambre, no. 2026

1788

Alexis Cloutier - Francoise Lecomte, Widow Joseph Dupre, no. 2109

Pierre Metoyer - Thereze Buard, Widow Etienne Pavie, no. 2121

Francois Monginot - Francoise Buard, no. 2091

1790

Pierre Joseph Alman - Marie Thereze Langlois, no. 2214

Dominique Davion - Pelagie Isidore Gagnie, no. 2242

Joseph Marcel De Soto - Marie Baillio, no. 2212

Andre Frederic - Marianne Cheletre, Widow Baillio, no. 2213

1794

Joseph Laurent Baudin - Marie Modeste, no. 2569

Simon Guell - Genevieve Baudin, no. 2567

Gil Izquierdo - Rita Antonia Izquierdo (Proof of Marriage)

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*The original records could not be located.

1799

Pierre Ternier - Rose Gagnier, no. 2910

1800-1802

Francois Chabut - Marianne Malige, no. 2987

Michel Chamard - Marie Francoise Rambin, no. 3985

Samuel Davenport - Marie Louise Gagnon, no. 2988

Louis Derbanne - Catherine Brosset, no. 3027

Pierre Gagnier - Jeanne Lalande, no. 2956

Christian Hesser - Adelaide, no. 2918

Simeon Mercier - Adelaide Levasseur, no. 2957

Remy Perot - Widow Louis Davion, no. 2966

Jean Baptiste Triche - Marie Modeste Fonteneau, no. 2980

Transcript of the Buard-Rousseau Marriage Contract, April 10, 1739

(French Period)

Furente presence gabriel Buar soldat de la Compagnie de mons. Macarty au poste des Natchitoches, fils de feu jean Denis Buar bruleur d'eaude vie a morges canton de berne en Suisse, et de Claudine Bachelard de son vivant aussi de morges du meme canton d'une part: et anne chagneau epouse en seconde nosces de Jean Bossier dit le brun habitant aud. poste des Nachitoches; quil authorize a Leffet des presentes, stipulante en cette partie pour Marie anne Rousseau sa fille qu'elle a eu de son premier mariage avec defunc Louis Rousseau vivant habitant a la cote nomme des Allemands sur le fleuve st. Louis dans La province de la Louisianne, a ce presente et de son consentement de meurante avec led. Jean Bossier, et lad. Anne chagneau ses beaupere, et mere, d'autre part. Lequelle parties en la presence et de l'avis de Leurs parents et amis; savoir de la part dud. futur Epoux de Jean L'age beaufrere dud gabriel Buard; Stipulant dans cette cause pour francoise Buar seur dud. futur epoux, et du sieur Michel de Corbier cadet de la compagnie du dit sueur de Macarty; et de la part de lad. future epouse de lad. Anne chagneau sa mere, et dud. Jean bossier son beaupere, et du sieur pierre Alorge sergeant de lad. compagnie dud. sieur Macarty, et du sr. J. Bap. Besson amis delad. marianne Rousseau, ont volontairement reconnu et confesse avoir fait entre elles les accords et conventions qui suivent, pour raison du future mariage desd. sieurs gabriel Buars et marianne Rousseau, qu'ils promettent respectivement a l'egard de lad. future epouse sous l'authorite de ses dits pere et beaupere faire celebrer et

solemniser ensemble en face de notre mere Ste. Eglise, le plus tot que faire se pourta ce qu'il sera (ainsi ou ——) et delibre entre eux et leurs dits parents et amis; c'est a savoir que lesd. futurs epoux seront uns et communs en tous biens, meubles et conquets immeubles suivant la coutume de paris, au desir de laquelle leur future communaute sera reglee et gouvernee encore que cy apres ils fissent leurs demeur, ou des acquisitions en pais et coutumes contraires, auquels ils ont en pressement deroge et renomme par ces presents: ne seront neane moins Lesd. futurs Epoux tenus d'aucunes dettes faites et crees avant leur mariage; mais si aucunes y a elles serons payees et acquittes par celuy ou celle qui les aura faites et crees par son bien particulier, sans que L'Autre ni ses biens en soient tenus. En faveur duquel futur mariage Lesd. Jean Bossier, et Anne chagneau sa femme prommettent et s'obligent solidaisement l'un pour l'autre chacun D'eux un seul pour le tous, sans divsion, discussion, ni fidejussion a quoy ils renoment, baillent donnent pour la dot de lad. Marianne Rousseau Leur fille, La somme de mille Livres monnaye courante dans la colonie de la louzianne, Laquelle somme Lesd. J. Bossier et anne Chagneau s'obligent par les presentes de payer en parfois payement au plus tard dans deux ans a compter de la datte des presentes et ce en aveniermentd'hoiries de la succession future de lad. mere de la future epouse, Laqulle somme de mille livres entrera en communaute dans led. mariage: Comme aussi led. futur epoux promets d'apporter aud. futur mariage pour entrer pareillement en communaute aud. futur mariage pareille somme de mille livres monnaye courante comme dit est dans lad. colonie. Le survivant desd. futurs epoux prendra et retirerea ce qu'il aura apporte audit mariage par les biens meubles et immeubles qu'il voudra choissir suivant La prisee de l'inventaire qui en sera faite et san Crue, jusqu' a L ocur rence de mille livres en deniers comptans, au choix dud. survivant reciproquement sera permis a lad. future epouse sur vivante, et aux anfants qui naitront dud. mariage, de renoncer a lad. conmunaute, ce en cas de renon ciation reprendre franchement et quittemant commedit est tous ce que lad. Marianne Rousseau future Epouse aura apporte aud. mariage, avec cequi Lui sera avenu et echu par succession, legs, donations, ou autrement, en meubles et immeubles memes, sans estre pareille future epouse ni lesd. enfants tenus daucunes dette ny hypotheqyes de lad. communaute encore qu'elle s'y fut oblige, ou y eut este condamne: pareille faculte de renoncer a lad. communaute, avec semblables reprises a este accorde aud. gabriel Buar futur epoux, en Laissant neanmoins aud. futur epoux tous ce qui luy sera avenu et echu pendant led. mariage par donation, succes-

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sion, legs, ou autrement soit meubles et immeubles, sera et demerua propre aud. futur epoux et aux siens de son cote et ligne.

Car ainsi a este accorde entre les parties qui ont declare ne savoir signe, en presence du notaire et des temoins soussignes, aux nachitoches le dix Avril mil sept cent trente neuf.

approuve
un mot
de rature
marque X de lad.
Anne chagneau

marque X dud. futur epoux

marque du sr.
X
Le Brun

marque de
X
La future epouse
Jean Lage Dit La Rot

De Corbier
Besson

Alorge

par devant moi
p. Duplessis
notaire

Transcript of the Paillet-Poissot Marriage Contract, November 7, 1803

(End of the Spanish Period)

Aujordhuy Septieme jour du mois de Novembre d l'anee Mil huit cent trois—Par Devant moi Felix Trudeau, capitaine D'infanterie commandant civil et Militiare du Poste des Natchitoches et d'epandance Presence de sieurs Paul Marcollay et Alexandre Guerbois temoins de mon assistance a deffaut d'aicrivain Public en ce lieux en fesant les fonctions —comparurent en Personne Sieur Jean Baptiste Jacques Paillet fils Legitime de Sieur Pierre jorge Paillet et de Dame Suzane Roy, d'une Part, et Dame Marie Victoire Poissot, veuve de Denis Buard fille legitime de feu Remy Poissot et de Marie Louise Cave d'autres part, les quelles parties acompagne de leurs parent et Amis a deffaut Diceux c'est

a savoir de la part du Sr. Paillet les Sieurs Jean Gorbier et Francois Rouquier jeune ses amis et de la part de la Dame Ve. Denis Buard les sieurs Paul Poissot, jean Bte. Buard et Louis Buard ses freres et baux frere en Presence desquels tous parents et amis les parties contractantes ont faits et font les conventions qui suivent, a Scavoir que le Sieur Jean Bte. Paillt et Dame Marie Victoire Poissot Ve. Buard, ont promis et Promettent se prendre en foix et loix de mariage en face de Notre Mere la Sainte eglise Catholique Apostolique et Romaine le plutot que faire se Poura et que l'une des deux partis en Requera lautres Ne Seront tenus les futurs epoux des des dettes contractes avant le future mariage lesquelles seront acquittis par celui ou celle qui les aura contractee sans que la Personne ni les biens de l'autres en soye tenus

Seront les dit futurs epoux commun en biens du jours de la celebrations du mariage et pour autrement.

De clare le futurs epoux le Sr. Jean Bte. Paillet que ses biens se monte a la somme de cinq mille piastres tant en argent effet qu' nanimaux

Declare la future epouse Dame Marie Victoire Poissot que ses biens se monte a la somme de quatres mille piastres en habitations, negres, argent, et animaux.

Declare de plus la future epouse quel porte a la communautee une somme de douze cent quarte vingt dix neuf piastres cinq reaux d'eritage de sa fille Marianne Buard

De plus les futurs epoux le Sr. Paillet et Dame Victoire Poissot se font dont mutuelle pour leur vie durante ———— de touts les biens d'aquet et conquet les quel retourneront a leurs parents d'estre et ligne si le cas y echoix.

C'est conventions et conditions ainsi faites et clairement enoncee le futurs epoux le Sieur Jean Bpte Paillet a fait serment par Dieu Notre Seigneur et Par la signe d'une croix comme il est de droit qu il soutiendra pour ferme stable le coutume du Present Contracts, Pour surete du quil il oblige ses biens present et avenir et donne Pouvoir aux justicier de S. M. de connoitres de toutes des Presents comme ayant force de loix et chose deja juges Renoncant a toutes loix en sa faveurs.

Fait et passe aux dit lieux des Natchitoches les jours et ans quen tete des presentes et pour quil conste ont signe les partis contractante ainsi que les parent, et amis et les deux temoins de mon assistance qui aussi signee avec moi comandant sus dit ce que jai teste veritable connaissant les partis contractants dont je fais foix

Marque de
X
M. Victoire Poissot

Paillet

Rouquier jr

Marque de
X

Buard

gorbier

Paul Poissot

Felix Trudeau

Guerbois, testigo

Glossary

Retaining the spelling used in the original documents, and including many archaic and colloquial terms.

Published sources include KASKASKIA UNDER THE FRENCH REGIME by Belting; MARRIAGE CONTRACTS OF THE OPELOUSAS POST, 1766-1803 by Vidrine-De Ville; and the *Louisiana Historical Quarterlies.* Unpublished manuscripts by Katherine Bridges, Louisiana Librarian at Northwestern State College in Natchitoches, were also consulted.

à—to; at.
ami,e—friend.
ancien officier—retired officer
ancien officer reformé—a retired officer; an officer on half-pay; French officer who had been stationed in the Illinois country.
année courant—current year
archevêché—archbishopric
argent effectif—cash money
argent réel—actual money
arpent—lineal measure, approximately 192 feet; square measure, approximately .85 of an acre.
aux Cadeaux—at the (village of the) Caddo Indians.
advancement d'hoirie—advancement of inheritance
ayeul—ancestor; usually, grandfather.
bailliage—bailliage; bailiwick.
beau-frère—brother-in-law; step-father.
beau-grand-père—grandfather-in-law; step-father.
beau-père—father-in-law; step-father.
belle-mère—mother-in-law; step-mother.
bel-oncle—uncle-in-law; step-uncle.
borné—bordered.
bourg—small town; small market-town.
bruleur d'eau de vie—brandy distiller.
cader—youngest; cadet.
capne. de port—harbour-master.
carré—square.
charon—cartwright; wheelwright.
chasseur—huntsman.
chirugien—surgeon.
cochons—hogs.
commerçant—businessman.
communauté—joint estate (of husband and wife).
consellier—counsellor; adviser.
Convent des dames Ursulines — Ursuline Convent (at New Orleans).
cordonnier—shoemaker.
Coste de Jullain—probably, land bordering Bayou Jullien near Natchitoches.
cousin-germain—first cousin; true or blood cousin.
couverte en bandeaux—with a plain covering.
créole—native of.
curator—guardian.
curé—parish priest.
défunct, e—deceased.
de la compagnie—of the company.
de la grande terre—
de la marine—of the Marine.
de ménage—of housekeeping.
demoiselle—unmarried woman; young girl.
de nation—of nationality.
denier—denier; penny.
des Allemands—German Coast in Louisiana.
détachement des troupes—troops on detachment.
d'infanterie—of the infantry.
dit—called; alias; said.
dot—dowry.
douair préfix—marriage settlement paid to the wife when her husband dies, over and above her just rights of inheritance, as stated in their marriage contract.
droits maternel et paternel—maternal and paternal rights of inheritance.
écoles—schools.
élevé—reared.
en bas—below (land).
engars volant—barns with lean-to wings.
enseigne—ensign.
entretenues—maintained.
épouse—wife.
époux—husband.
escalin—money worth about 12½ cents.
espèce—specie.
espèce sonnante—hard cash.
Etats-Unis—United States.
évéché—bishopric
feu,e—deceased.
fille naturelle—illegitimate daughter.
fils—son; junior.
fleuve St. Louis—Mississippi River.
foregeron—blacksmith; ironsmith.
franc—about one dollar.
frère—brother.
frère-charnel—blood-brother.
frère-consanguin—half-brother on father's side; possibly, blood-brother.

future épouse—future wife; bride.
futur époux—future husband; groom.
gains et épargnes de fille—gains and savings as a young girl.
garde magazin du roi—guardian of the king's storehouse.
génisse—heifer.
grand'mère—grandmother.
grand-père—grandfather.
habitant—resident.
habitation—farm; place of residence; plantation.
hoirie—inheritance.
intendant—intendant.
Isle aux Chevaux—*unable to identify.*
jeune—junior.
le cap de la Magdelaine—Cap-de-la-Madelein, near Trois Riviers, Quebec, Canada.
le Chevalier—the knights.
legs—legacy.
Les Laynoirs—*unable to identify.*
lieu—2½ miles.
l'isle de—island of
lit—bed.
lit garni—fully-dressed bed (tester, draperies, etc.).
livre—one franc.
livres tournois—*livres* minted at Tours, France.
maguillier—churchwarden.
maison—house.
maître—master.
marchand—merchant.
mari—husband.
menutier—joiner.
mère—mother.
mère-vache—mother cow.
métier—trade; profession.
meubles—movables.
milice—militia.
monaye d'éspagne—Spanish money.
monnaye courante dans la colonie—money currently being used in the colony.
monsieur—mister, used when speaking of one of higher rank than ordinary.
moyent—middle-sized.
mulatresse—female mulatto.
natif(ve)—native.
négociant—merchant; trader.
négre—male Negro.
négresse—female Negro.
négrillion—young Negro boy.
négritte—young Negro girl.
notaire—notary.
nourry—nourished; fed.
oncle—uncle.
oncle-charnel—true uncle, not uncle by marriage.
oncle maternel—maternal uncle.
ordonnateur—director of finance.
par aliance—by marriage.
paroisse—parish.
parrain—god-father.
père—father.
petit,e—small
piastres—word used in colonial Louisiana for the Spanish piece-of-eight; now used to mean the American dollar.
piastres gourdes—coins, each worth about one dollar.
pièce d'inde—able bodied (term used to describe slaves).
pied—foot (measure).
potteau en terre—posts-in-the-ground.
prêtre—priest.
profondeur—depth (of land).
reaux—Plural French form of the Spanish word *reales,* coins worth about 12½ cents each.
Religieux Recolet—Recollect Priest
Rivière de Campté—possibly that part of the Red River near the present-day town of Campti, Louisiana.
Rivière Rouge—Red River.
sauvage,sse—Indian.
sieur—mister.
situé à l'endroit—situated at the place.
soeur—sister.
sol—sou; about five cents.
soldat—soldier.
somme—sum.
subdélégué—subdelegate.
tante maternel—maternal aunt.
taure—heifer.
taureau—bull.
terrain—plot of land.
terre des deserts—cut-over timberland.
testes—head (of animals).
toise—fathoms (of land).
troupeau—herd.
tuteur—tutor.
tuteur subrogé—surrogate tutor; special tutor.
veuf—widower.
veuve—widow.

Index

The numbers in this index refer to the contract number supplied by the compiler.

Acuica, 19
Aigle, (see Naigle)
Allorge, 58
Alorge, (see Allorge)
Anard, 15
Anty, 24, 96
Armant, 58

Babin, (see La Source)
Bachelard, 1
Baillio, 21, 57, 80
Bailliot, (see Baillio)
Baillo, (see Baillio)
Barbier, 4, 59
Bardon, 72, 74
Baudin, 75
Baudoin, (see Beaudoin)
Baudouin, (see Beaudoin)
Baulet, (see Boulet)
Beaudoin, 18, 78
Beaupres, 11
Bedle, 92
Benoist, 8, 41
Bergeau, 3
Berger, 9
Bernard, 48
Berry, (see La Berry)
Bertheau, 72
Bertrand, 30, 65
Bertrant, (see Bertrand)
Besson, 5, 51
Billet, 77
Blet, 11
Blutau, 14
Boiseiller, 90
Bonnet, 12
Bontemps, 22, 78
Bontems, (see Bontemps)
Bordelon, 85
Botson, 18, 22
Boucharre, 10
Boudin, 75
Boulet, 23, 38
Bourdon, 11, 26
Boyer, 25
Breuvelle, (see Brevel)
Brevel, 46, 56, 68, 77
Brignac, 60
Brosset, 56
Brumeaux, 29
Brunelle, 15
Brunet, 32
Buar, (see Buard)
Buard, 1, 50, 52, 62, 87, 88, 89, 91, 95, 97

Buart, (see Buard)
Buhart, (see Buard)

Carles, 16, 33
Cavé, 32, 63, 86, 89, 95, 96, 97
Chagneau, 1, 37, 48
Chaigneau, (see Chagneau)
Chaignot, (see Chagneau)
Chamard, 72
Charbonnet, 34, 35
Cheletre, 57, 73, 80, 83, 92, 93
Cheneau, (see Chesneau)
Chesneau, 19
Chevert, 76, (see Xeben)
Cicille, 18
Clairemont, 9, 27, 52, 82
Clemence, 75
Clemince, (see Clemence)
Clement, 15
Clermont, (see Clairemont)
Closseaux, 20
Colatin, (see Collautin)
Colin, 17
Collautin, 56, 70, 71
Couasse, 62
Court, (see Lacourt)
Craitte, 28
Crevier, 30
Cusson, 34, 35

Daigle, (see Naigle)
Daublin, 20
David, 36
Davion, 14, 65
de Bralle, (see de Braulle)
de Brandé, (see de Braulle)
de Braulle, 10
Delafosse, 41
Delaroche, 53, 61
De L'isle, 30
de Livaudais, 35
de Mouy, 55
Deprez, (see Derbanne)
Derbanne, 4, 6, 67, 94
de Santa Cruz, 75
de Soto, (see Sotto)
de Teincourt, 42
de Viereblet, 2
Dion, (see Derbanne)
Dolay, (see Dolé)
Dolé, 17, 31, 67
Doler, (see Dolé)
Doles, (see Dolé)
Dolet, (see Dolé)
Doley, (see Dolé)
Dortolan, 54, 74
Du Bois, 9, 82
Duc, (see le Duc)
Dumon, (see Dumont)

Dumont, 6, 7, 23, 28, 40, 46
du Pain, 12, 58
du Poste, 36
Dupré, 39, 51, 63, 64, 67, 86
Duprey, (see Dupré)
Dureau, 38
Durocher, 22
Duvivier, 12

Emond, 2
Enesse, (see Innis)

Favonne, 5
Felip, 21, (see Philippe)
Fèvre, (se le Fèvre)
Finet, 19
Flecher, 92
Fletcher, (see Flecher)
Fontenot, 60
Fort, 61
Frédéric, (see Piedvert)
Gagnys, (see Gaignys)
Gaignys, 14, 30
Galien, 96
Gillemenne, 41
Gillotte, 7
Gonnin, 27
Goutieres, (see Gutierez)
Grappe, 40, 45, 54, 60, 69, 74, 85, 90
Gratien, 20
Gravaygne, 31
Grillet, 46, 56, 68, 81
Guédon, (see Gueydon)
Guemon, 51
Guerin, 24
Guesdon, (see Gueydon)
Gueydon, 5, 13, 17, 31, 40, 43, 44, 45, 54, 59, 60, 69, 90
Gutierez, 79

Haieszes, 2
Henoul, (see de Livaudais)
Huberdeau, 59
Huberre, 10

Innis, 80

Joubart, (see Lamalatty)

Labatu, 54, 74
Labatut, (see Labatu)
La Berry, 13
Lacourt, 28
Lacroix, 37, 48, 77
Laffite, (see Laffitte)
Laffitte, 45
Lafiteau, 43
Lafitte, (see Laffitte)

La Fon, 21, 57
Laignon, 43
Lajeunesse, 77
Lamalathie, (see Lamalatty)
Lamalatty, 24, 36, 68, 81, 94
Lambre, 50, 70, 71
Larenaudière, 3, 25, 33, 42, 49
Larivière, 33, 42
Laruiziau, 19
La Source, 35
Lattier, 23, 73
Le Brun, 82
Leclerc, 94
Lecompte, 39, 64, (see Saydeck)
Le Doux, 55
le Duc, 5, 43, 49
le Fèvre, 12
Léger, 42
Léonard, 11
Leroy, 7, 39, 53, 64, 97
Lesage, 2
Lestage, 13
Le Vasseur, 11, 26, 50, 88, 95
Livaudais, (see de Livaudais)
Luneau, 10

Madert, 16, 88
Malbert, 53, 61, 78
Malige, 82
Marbert, (see Malbert)
Marcon, 44
Marte, 61
Materne, 16
Mercier, 26, 76
Merles, 16, 33
Messager, 29
Monnet, 64
Mont, (see Dumont)
Montanary, 69
Monteche, 11
Morin, 26
Mouette, 8
Mousse, 20

Naigle, 25, 33
Narer, 63
Normand, 15, 58
Normans, (see Normand)
Normant, (see Normand)
Nougé, 28

Oakley, (see Okeley)
Okeley, 80
O'Kelley, (see Okeley)
Ortolan, (see Dortolan)

Paillet, 97
Pain, 12, 34, (see du Pain)

Papeau, 19
Pavie, 62, 91
Pavy, (see Pavie)
Philippe, 32, 39, (see Felip)
Piedferme, (see Leger)
Piedvert, 22
Pivers, 3
Plaisance, 44
Poisot, (see Poissot)
Poisson, 18
Poissot, 21, 32, 57, 70, 71, 77, 79, 89, 91, 95, 96, 97
Pommier, 57, 63, 73
Poste, (see du Poste)
Prudhomme, 4, 47, 66, 70, 71, 76

Rachal, 8, 64, 68, 81, 94
Raimon, 27
Rambin, 52
Renaudier, (see Larenaudière)
René, 79
Revoironne, 23
Riché, 9, (see Richey)
Richey, 9, 27
Richy, (see Richey)
Rivière, 25, (see Larvière)
Robin, 38
Roche, 24
Rondain, 12
Rondeau, 55, 85
Rondin, 29
Rondo, (see Rondeau)
Roujot, 34, 55
Rouquier, 66, 87
Rousseau, 1, 50, 52, 62, 88, 89
Roy, 97, (see Leroy)
Ruth, 84

Sage, (see Lesage)
St. Denis, (see Rachal)
St. Squier, 37
Saiteck, (see Saydeck)
Sans Chagrin, (see Chesneau)
Santa Cruz, (see de Santa Cruz)
Saydeck, 83, 92, 93
Sheleter, (see Cheletre)
Sorel, 90
Soto, (see Sotto)
Sotto, 91

Talan, 69
Tamien, 86
Tauzin, 72
Teal, 83, 84, 93
Teincourt, (see de Teincourt)
Thérèse, 5
Thoms, (see Thons)
Thons, 83, 84

Toutin, 13, 17, 31, 44, 56, 59, 67
Trahan, 41
Trajan, (see Trahan)
Tréan, (see Trahan)
Triche, (see Trichele)
Trichele, 7, 14, 40, 85
Trichle, (see Trichele)
Tutin, (see Toutin)

Vadel, 47
Valentin, 31
Vasseur, (see Le Vasseur)
Vercher, 46, 81
Verchaire, (see Vercher)
Vergé, (see Verger)
Verger, 6, 23, 28, 38, 39, 53, 61, 78
Verneuil, 74
Victoire, 24, 36
Viger, 3
Vildeque, 51
Villefranche, (see le Duc)
Viscan, 37

Willing, 93, (see Willis)
Willis, 84, (see Willing)

Xeben, 47, (see Chevert)

Zarichi, 86

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